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ELF NONLINEAR NOISE PROCESSING EXPERIMENTAL
MEASUREMENTS, PART 2 - SYNOPTIC SAMPLE OF
DIURNAL AND SEASONAL NOISE VARIATION IN NORWAY

NAVAL RESEARCH LABORATORY, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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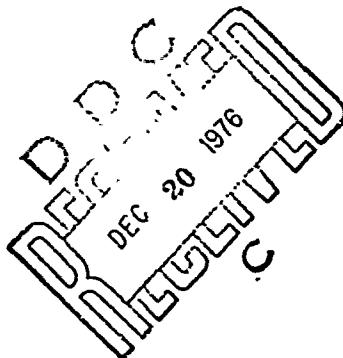
ELF Nonlinear Noise Processing Experimental Measurements,

Part 2 – Synoptic Sample of Diurnal and Seasonal Noise Variation in Norway

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20. ABSTRACT (Continue on reverse side if necessary and identify by block number) Using a suitable nonlinearity in the input stage of an extremely low frequency receiver can improve received signal-to-noise ratio S/N by whitening the nongaussian atmospheric noise at these frequencies. Previous studies indicate that performance of simple clippers, carefully adjusted on the basis of the raw noise amplitude statistics, is very nearly equal to that of the optimum clipper. A collection of ELF noise data for all seasons and nearly all times of day has been acquired at a receiving site in the auroral zone near Tromsø, Norway. These data have been used to evaluate		
(continued)		

20.

the improvement in S/N that can be expected from simple clipping under a variety of noise and propagation conditions.

A regular diurnal variation in effective (processed) noise level is observed under quiet conditions. Under both quiet and noisy conditions little performance difference is observed among processing channels with clipping levels as far apart as 6 to 18 dB, in the vicinity of the optimum clipping level.

The nonlinear processing method described in this report provides at least 10 dR of S/N improvement over the performance obtained without suitable processing.



CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
DATA	2
CONCLUSIONS	23
REFERENCES	30

**ELF NONLINEAR NOISE PROCESSING EXPERIMENTAL MEASUREMENTS,
PART 2 — SYNOPTIC SAMPLE OF DIURNAL AND
SEASONAL NOISE VARIATION IN NORWAY**

INTRODUCTION

This report contains the results of a detailed study of the effectiveness of nonlinear noise processing in improving extremely low frequency (ELF) signal-to-noise (S/N) ratio in all seasons and nearly all times of day, for data collected in northern Norway between January 1974 and November 1975. The method used is described by Meyers and Davis [1]. It will be summarized here for the reader's convenience.

Atmospheric noise at ELF is approximately log-normally distributed within the 10% and 90% exceedence limits, but at higher noise levels it depends on local thunderstorm activity [2, 3] and is generally more intense than Gaussian noise of the same rms level. For this reason, it is attractive to place a controlled nonlinearity in the receiver at wide signal-plus-noise bandwidth to improve signal-to-noise ratio by whitening the noise. An earlier investigation has shown that a simple clipper operating between the 10% and 40% exceedence levels in a 140-Hz bandwidth centered on 70 Hz provides near-optimum performance [3].

It is important in estimating communication system performance to characterize the noise environment; we made a synoptic collection of ELF noise data in Norway to permit quantification of the variability of effective (i.e., whitened) ELF noise under a wide range of noise and propagation conditions. Data were recorded on analog magnetic tape in a bandwidth extending from 2 to 130 Hz, together with a low-level calibration signal of high stability, to serve as an indication of S/N improvement. This calibration signal was set below clipping level, at about -140 dB below $1 \text{ A/m} \cdot \text{Hz}^{-1/2}$ (henceforth designated dBII) which represents the level below which further clipping was seldom expected to be necessary.

Details of the signal processor are reported by Meyers and Davis [1]. The analog tapes were replayed at increased speed through a bank of six clippers whose clip levels were separately successively by 6 dB. The outputs were recorded on digital tape for computation of effective noise levels, selection of best clipping levels, and calculation of signal statistics. Spectral analysis was used to identify coherent interference bands that occasionally appeared above levels intended to be clipping thresholds, and these bands were removed by notch filtering.

DAVIS AND MEYERS

DATA

Data are presented here for four one-month recording periods. All data were recorded in Tromsø, Norway (lat. 20° E, long. 70° N), a location representative of auroral-zone conditions to be expected in a belt extending eastward from Novaya Zemlya, through northern Norway and the Norwegian Sea, to Iceland and the southern tip of Greenland.

Figures 1 and 2 and Tables 1-5 contain data from January 1974, in a form intended to emphasize (1) the bounds of diurnal variation, (2) the day-to-day variability, and (3) the effectiveness of the multiple clipping levels in reducing effective noise for these variable conditions. Similar illustrations will appear below for data acquired during the other three seasons, so that seasonal variation can be assessed.

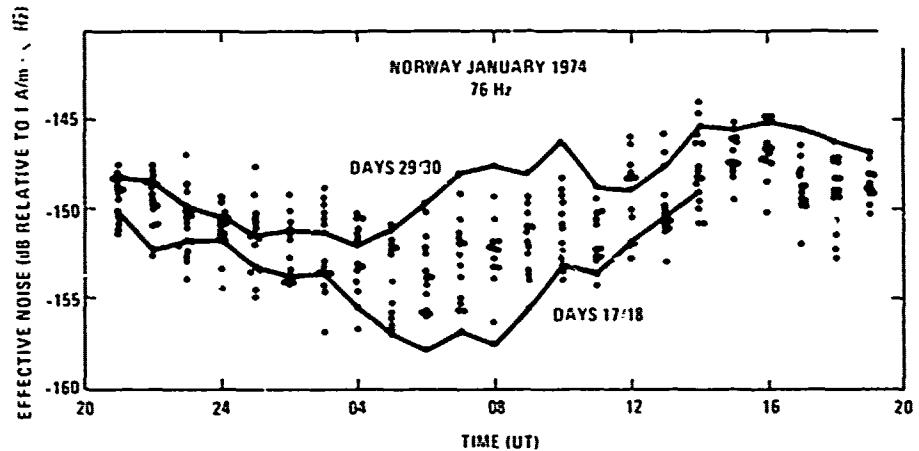


Fig. 1—Hourly samples of minimum effective noise, each averaged over 13 min, for January 1974. The quietest and noisiest days of the month are graphed and designated by Julian day numbers.

Figure 1 is a scatter plot of hourly samples of the minimum effective noise data (each sample of 13-min. duration) taken during this measurement period. By minimum effective noise is meant the noise output of the clipper that provided the greatest improvement in S/N of the six parallel-processed channels. Effective noise is defined as the ratio of the known injected calibration signal level to the measured S/N after clipping. Postclipping S/N was determined by computing the ratio of mean-square signal to signal variance after 13 min of coherent integration. The data in this report represent effective noise at a center frequency of 76 Hz (i.e., the injected calibration signal used for a reference was at 76 Hz). Superimposed on the scatter plot are two lines that represent the noisiest day (days 29/30) and the quietest day (days 17/18) of the month. The Julian day number designation will be used throughout this report—in this case, two day numbers appear in each citation because data tapes extended across midnight Universal Time (UT).

NRL REPORT 8039

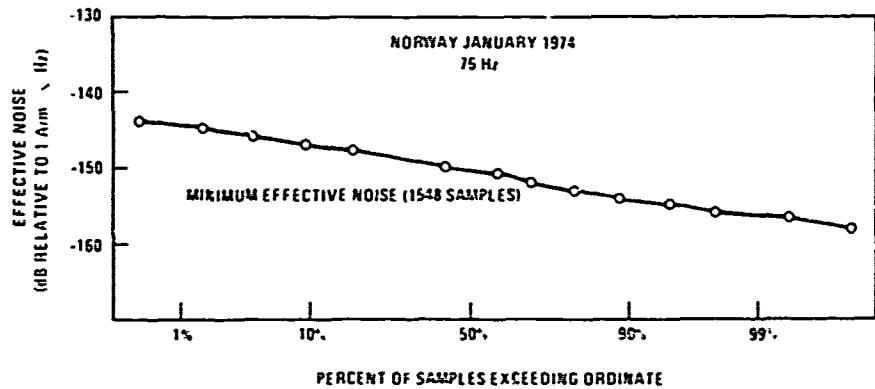


Fig. 2—Cumulative probability distribution of minimum effective noise samples for January 1974

The diurnal variation of about 6 dB in mean noise from a minimum at 04-08 UT to a maximum at 14-18 UT is evident in Fig. 1. It is worthy of note that the disparity between the noisiest and quietest days of the month is greatest in the 06-10 UT interval, when the sunrise terminator passes over the receiving site and regions south, producing instability in ionospheric conditions that affects the propagation of noise northward from more southerly latitudes. This disparity probably is more evident in these winter data than in data from other seasons because the trajectory of the terminator approaches the receiving site more rapidly and from farther south in the winter. Its effect on noise propagating northward is thus more pronounced.

To describe noise conditions indicated by the noisy- and quiet-day extremes in Fig. 1, Tables 1-4 contain information on the individual 13-min noise samples that make up each of these days' data. Table 1 contains 84 samples from the quieter day, tabulated by Julian day number and UT. The six columns represent effective noise in dBH for five of the six signal processor channels in inverse order of clipping vigor, with the minimum of the six effective noise levels in the right-hand column. As a matter of convenience, the sixth clipper output is not shown (not enough columns were available on the computer output printer), but this clipper was never the best one. The clipping levels used in these and other cases to be discussed below were -116 dBH (Column 5) to -140 dBH (Column 1) in 6-dB increments.

The minimum effective noise level for each sample is also boxed in its appropriate clipper's column so that temporal variation of optimum clipping level can readily be observed. Two important points can be inferred from Table 1:

- There is a gradual, systematic, 12-dB variation in best clip level with time, presumably following the diurnal changes in noise conditions.
- The difference in effective noise level among columns 1-3 is seldom more than a few tenths of a decibel.

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 1 -- Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days 17 and 18, 1974 (Quiet Day)

WAVE NUMBER	DAY NUMBER	INTERVAL TIME	EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (dB RELATIVE TO 12 dB, T_{90})					
			1	2	3	4	5	MIN
1	61	21 23	151.2	151.3	151.5	151.3	150.4	151.5
2	62	22 24	151.0	151.4	151.3	151.3	150.6	151.4
3	63	23 25	150.9	151.1	151.2	151.3	150.5	151.0
4	64	24 26	150.9	150.7	151.0	151.2	150.5	151.0
5	65	25 27	150.7	150.5	150.8	150.6	150.7	151.0
6	66	26 28	151.1	152.2	152.3	152.1	151.9	151.5
7	67	27 29	152.2	152.1	152.3	152.1	151.9	152.3
8	68	28 30	151.7	151.7	152.1	152.0	151.7	152.1
9	69	29 31	151.9	152.1	152.1	151.7	150.5	152.1
10	70	30 32	151.4	152.1	152.1	151.4	150.5	152.1
11	71	31 33	152.0	152.0	152.0	151.9	150.6	152.0
12	72	32 34	151.9	151.7	152.1	151.5	150.5	151.9
13	73	33 35	152.6	152.6	152.9	152.6	152.5	152.6
14	74	34 36	151.7	151.7	152.1	151.5	150.6	151.7
15	75	35 37	151.9	152.1	152.1	151.1	150.7	152.1
16	76	36 38	151.4	152.5	152.5	151.3	150.7	152.0
17	77	37 39	151.6	152.4	152.4	151.6	150.7	151.6
18	78	38 40	152.2	152.2	152.4	151.6	150.5	152.2
19	79	39 41	151.9	152.2	152.1	151.4	150.6	152.2
20	80	40 42	152.0	152.0	152.0	151.9	150.6	152.0
21	81	41 43	152.9	152.3	152.3	152.3	150.5	152.9
22	82	42 44	152.6	152.6	152.5	152.3	150.5	152.6
23	83	43 45	152.2	152.1	152.2	151.9	150.7	152.3
24	84	44 46	152.9	152.7	152.7	152.5	151.5	152.9
25	85	45 47	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
26	86	46 48	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
27	87	47 49	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
28	88	48 50	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
29	89	49 51	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
30	90	50 52	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
31	91	51 53	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
32	92	52 54	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
33	93	53 55	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
34	94	54 56	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
35	95	55 57	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
36	96	56 58	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
37	97	57 59	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
38	98	58 60	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
39	99	59 61	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
40	100	60 62	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
41	101	61 63	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
42	102	62 64	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
43	103	63 65	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
44	104	64 66	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
45	105	65 67	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
46	106	66 68	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
47	107	67 69	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
48	108	68 70	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
49	109	69 71	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
50	110	70 72	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
51	111	71 73	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
52	112	72 74	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
53	113	73 75	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
54	114	74 76	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
55	115	75 77	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
56	116	76 78	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
57	117	77 79	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
58	118	78 80	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
59	119	79 81	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
60	120	80 82	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
61	121	81 83	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
62	122	82 84	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
63	123	83 85	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
64	124	84 86	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
65	125	85 87	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
66	126	86 88	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
67	127	87 89	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
68	128	88 90	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
69	129	89 91	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
70	130	90 92	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
71	131	91 93	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2
72	132	92 94	152.9	152.9	152.9	152.5	151.5	152.9
73	133	93 95	152.6	152.6	152.6	152.4	151.5	152.6
74	134	94 96	152.2	152.2	152.4	152.2	151.5	152.2

NRL REPORT 8039

Table 2 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian
Days 17 and 18, 1974

DAILY MEAN	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
	-152.1	-152.2	-152.4	-151.9	-150.7	-153.2
STANDARD DEV	29	23	23	20	18	27

PROBABILITY DENSITY						
-154.0	1	12	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.9	3	36	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.8	11	121	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.7	9	93	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.6	5	60	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.5	12	113	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.4	16	159	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.3	24	167	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.2	5	66	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.1	4	48	0	0.0	0.0	0
-153.0	2	26	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.9	1	12	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-152.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-151.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-150.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-149.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-148.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-147.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-146.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-145.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-144.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-143.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-142.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-141.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-140.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-139.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-138.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-137.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.5	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.3	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.2	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-136.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-135.9	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-135.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-135.7	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0
-135.6						

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 3 — Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days 29 and 30, 1974 (Noisy Day)

NRL REPORT 8039

Table 4 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian
Days 29 and 30, 1974

	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
DAILY MEAN	-108.2	-114.4	-108.3	-118.1	-117.3	-108.5
STANDARD DEV	2.2	0.2	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.2

PROBABILITY DENSITY						
-182.0	1	1.0	2	1.9	4	3.9
-151.0	13	12.6	15	11.6	17	10.5
-150.0	16	15.5	13	12.6	10	9.7
-149.0	11	10.7	13	12.6	11	10.7
-148.0	11	10.7	13	12.6	9	8.7
-147.0	16	15.5	15	14.5	19	18.4
-146.0	10	9.7	14	12.6	11	10.7
-145.0	21	20.1	16	14.6	16	15.6
-144.0	2	1.9	3	2.9	5	4.9
-143.0	2	1.9	1	1.9	1	1.9
-142.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION						
-182.0	1	1.0	2	1.9	4	3.9
-151.0	11	13.6	17	16.5	21	20.1
-150.0	30	29.1	30	29.1	31	30.1
-149.0	31	30.8	33	31.7	32	30.8
-148.0	52	60.5	56	54.1	61	49.5
-147.0	69	60.0	71	68.9	70	68.0
-146.0	78	75.7	81	81.6	81	78.6
-145.0	99	95.1	99	96.1	97	94.2
-144.0	101	98.1	102	99.0	102	98.0
-143.0	102	100.0	104	100.0	104	100.0
-142.0	103	100.0	104	100.0	104	100.0

Table 5 contains similar statistical data from all of the 1518 samples taken during January 1974 for the five clip levels and for the sample-by-sample minimum effective noise (sixth) column. Figure 2 is the cumulative probability distribution for the minimum effective noise column of Table 5, showing evident log-normalcy for the entire body of data.

While these data are fresh in the reader's mind, it is appropriate to draw a conclusion that will be seen to be borne out by further examples to be presented below: the difference in performance between processing channels with 6-18 dB separation in clip level is small. Intelligent placement of one or two clippers at levels based on seasonal average noise levels will nearly always provide effective noise within a few tenths of a decibel of the minimum level.

Figures 3 and 4 and Tables 6-9 contain similar data from March 1974. Figure 3 shows somewhat higher effective noise levels and a somewhat less pronounced difference between noisy-day and quiet-day levels in the 06-10 UT interval. Table 6 contains a sample-by-sample tabulation of the quiet-day (days 77/78) data from Fig. 3, with once again an orderly shift of clip level among the channels with time. Toward the end of the day noise began to rise and the orderly progression among processor channels ceased. Under quiet conditions early in the day, columns 3 and 4 were separated by 0.1 to 0.4 dB in effective noise level, and as conditions became noisier toward the end of the day columns 1-4 provided similar performance. This trend of noisy conditions to equalize

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 5 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, January 1974

EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (dB RELATIVE TO 1-AMPS/Hz)	PROBABILITY DENSITY					
	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
-154.0	2.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.01
-152.0	5.03	0.00	3.02	1.01	0.00	6.04
-150.0	20.13	4.03	13.08	6.04	0.00	30.19
-148.0	19.12	14.09	51.33	31.22	4.03	42.27
-146.0	38.23	54.37	41.54	71.18	22.16	92.59
-144.0	79.51	116.75	132.45	101.67	56.36	126.81
-142.0	176.11	172.11	167.10	170.11	103.62	142.11
-140.0	21.14	21.14	19.12	12.14	10.12	16.10
-138.0	262.16	263.17	229.14	215.13	146.12	242.15
-136.0	247.16	227.14	210.13	169.24	145.15	207.13
-134.0	175.12	147.12	173.11	197.12	255.16	180.11
-132.0	135.97	129.83	124.41	195.10	231.11	124.80
-130.0	79.51	45.55	77.50	45.51	148.96	83.54
-128.0	52.31	15.29	54.35	54.35	44.57	42.77
-126.0	21.11	16.10	20.11	20.13	31.20	16.10
-124.0	7.05	5.03	5.03	2.01	8.05	1.01
-122.0	1.01	2.01	0.00	0.00	1.01	0.00
-120.0	2.01	3.02	3.02	2.01	1.01	3.02
-118.0	3.02	2.01	2.01	2.01	3.02	2.01
-116.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
-114.0	1.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.01	0.00
-112.0	0.00	1.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (dB RELATIVE TO 1-AMPS/Hz)	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION					
	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
154.0	2.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.01
152.0	7.05	0.00	3.02	1.01	0.00	8.05
150.0	46.30	18.12	67.13	41.26	4.03	50.52
148.0	27.17	4.03	16.10	7.05	0.00	38.25
146.0	11.52	7.05	151.98	115.71	26.17	172.11
144.0	160.10	192.12	283.18	219.14	82.53	298.19
142.0	336.21	365.23	360.15	291.389	251.145	310.160
140.0	553.35	393.37	611.41	563.364	359.226	648.419
138.0	815.52	816.54	870.56	778.533	536.316	940.575
136.0	1062.68	1073.69	1040.69	1026.66	781.505	1097.709
134.0	1217.80	1260.81	1259.81	1223.79	1038.66	1277.823
132.0	1382.89	1389.89	1387.89	1382.89	1267.81	1401.96
130.0	1461.94	1473.95	1461.91	1367.94	1115.91	1481.95
128.0	1510.97	1519.98	1511.98	1521.98	1503.97	1526.96
126.0	1534.99	1535.99	1534.99	1541.99	1531.99	1542.99
124.0	1541.99	1540.99	1543.99	1543.99	1542.99	1543.99
122.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
120.0	1514.99	1515.99	1516.99	1545.99	1544.99	1546.99
118.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
116.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
114.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
112.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
110.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
108.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
106.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
104.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
102.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
100.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
98.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
96.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
94.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
92.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
90.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
88.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
86.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
84.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
82.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
80.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
78.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
76.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
74.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
72.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
70.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
68.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
66.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
64.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
62.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
60.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
58.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
56.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
54.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
52.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
50.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
48.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
46.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
44.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
42.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
40.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
38.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
36.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
34.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
32.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
30.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
28.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
26.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
24.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
22.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
20.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
18.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
16.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
14.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
12.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
10.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
8.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
6.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
4.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
2.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99
0.0	1512.99	1542.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99	1543.99

clipper performance was also evident in the January 1974 data. Table 7 contains statistical data for the data in Table 6, indicating very little difference in performance between channels 3 and 4 (although the comparison is muddled in this case, because noise conditions changed during the day).

Table 8 contains a sample-by-sample tabulation of the noisy-day (days 85/86) data from Fig. 3, showing the less orderly shift among clippers coupled with lesser performance distinction between clipper channels, which has been suggested above as characteristic of noisy conditions. A quiet interval between 00 UT and 05 UT can be discerned on Table 8 by the consistency of the best clipper choice, as well as by the low effective noise levels. Table 9 contains statistical information for the noisy-day data, confirming the extremely small variability of clipper performance among four of the five channels.

Figure 4 shows the cumulative probability distribution for the March 1974 minimum effective noise data, compared with noise measured simultaneously on a narrowband (1-Hz) recording channel without wideband nonlinear processing and averaged over a 1-h period. This comparison indicates that nonlinear noise processing provides at least 10 dB of improvement over conditions in which no prefiltering processing is attempted. However, because the narrowband noise data were recorded on analog tape with no more than 40 dB of linear dynamic range some of the highest amplitude noise pulses were

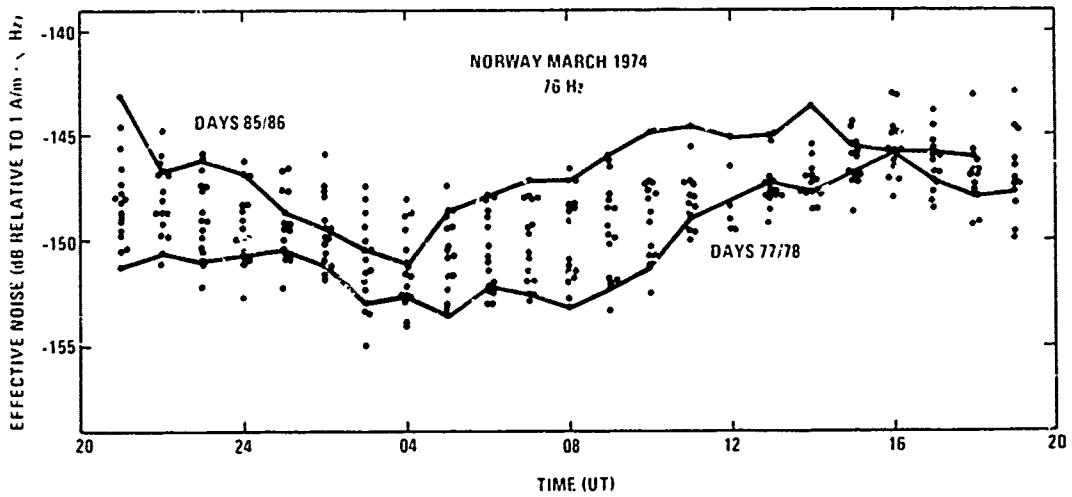


Fig. 3—Hourly samples of minimum effective noise, each averaged over 13 min, for March 1974. The quietest and noisiest days of the month are graphed and designated by Julian day numbers

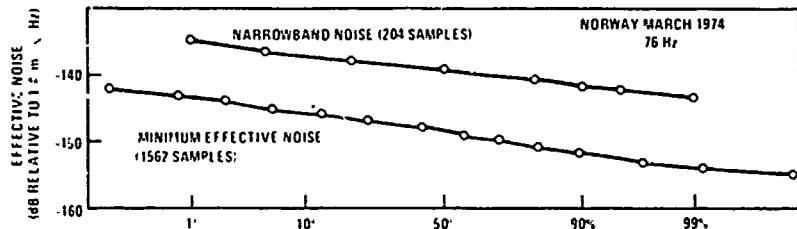


Fig. 4—Cumulative probability distribution of minimum effective noise samples compared with narrowband noise for March 1974

inadvertently clipped in the recording system, and the narrowband noise values thus are underestimated by an unknown amount. The frequency of large-amplitude noise pulses is quite low in winter conditions, when thunderstorm centers are far removed from the receiving site, and the March 1974 narrowband noise estimates are probably reliable. However, for summer conditions the opposite is true. Consequently, the tentative view expressed by Meyers and Davis [1] that improvements in S/N due to nonlinear processing are greater under low-noise (winter) conditions than under high-noise (summer) conditions is probably incorrect. It should be understood that the actual effective noise levels reported here and by Meyers and Davis [1] are correct, and only their comparison under high-noise conditions with narrowband noise estimates is of limited validity.

Figures 5-6 and Tables 10-14 contain data from March 1975. The diurnal behavior and the mean effective noise levels are similar to the March 1974 data, but the low-noise data (days 66/67) are extremely low and represent unusually quiet conditions. Table 10

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 6 — Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days 77 and 78, 1974 (Quiet Day)

SAMPLE NUMBER	DAY NUMBER	UNIVERSAL TIME	EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (DB RELATIVE TO 1A/m ² /√Hz)						SAMPLE NUMBER	DAY NUMBER	UNIVERSAL TIME	EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (DB RELATIVE TO 1A/m ² /√Hz)					
			1	2	3	4	5	MIN				1	2	3	4	5	MIN
1	077	20 35 25	-148.3	-149.9	-150.2	-150.6	-149.3	-150.6	54	078	08 10 14	-151.5	-151.7	-152.9	-151.9	-151.0	-152.9
2	077	20 48 32	-148.7	-149.3	-150.7	-150.9	-149.4	-150.9	55	078	08 11 20	-150.4	-152.2	-155.3	-152.3	-151.3	-155.3
3	077	21 01 39	-149.0	-149.1	-150.7	-151.2	-149.8	-151.2	56	078	08 12 27	-151.9	-152.1	-153.2	-152.3	-151.3	-153.2
4	077	21 14 45	-148.3	-149.1	-150.3	-150.7	-149.5	-150.7	57	078	08 14 34	-150.7	-152.1	-155.3	-152.3	-151.3	-155.3
5	077	21 27 52	-148.6	-149.2	-150.6	-150.7	-149.1	-150.7	58	078	09 02 10	-150.7	-151.2	-155.3	-151.9	-150.6	-155.3
6	077	21 40 59	-148.3	-148.9	-150.3	-150.5	-149.2	-150.5	59	078	09 15 47	-150.7	-152.5	-155.3	-151.2	-150.0	-155.5
7	077	21 54 05	-147.8	-148.5	-150.0	-150.6	-149.3	-150.6	60	078	09 28 53	-151.2	-151.3	-152.7	-152.0	-151.2	-155.7
8	077	22 07 12	-148.2	-149.3	-150.8	-151.0	-149.7	-151.0	61	078	10 02 00	-151.4	-151.8	-152.6	-151.7	-150.5	-155.6
9	077	22 20 18	-148.4	-149.1	-150.8	-151.0	-149.9	-151.0	62	078	10 55 06	-150.0	-150.7	-151.3	-150.7	-150.7	-151.3
10	077	22 33 25	-148.1	-148.7	-150.4	-151.0	-149.6	-151.0	63	078	11 06 13	-149.3	-149.7	-150.1	-149.9	-150.1	-150.1
11	077	22 46 32	-148.4	-149.1	-150.5	-150.9	-149.8	-150.9	64	078	11 21 19	-149.5	-149.6	-149.8	-149.9	-147.7	-149.8
12	077	22 59 38	-148.5	-149.1	-150.6	-150.9	-150.0	-150.9	65	078	11 34 26	-149.2	-149.7	-149.8	-149.3	-148.2	-149.8
13	077	23 12 45	-148.7	-149.4	-150.8	-151.7	-150.5	-151.7	66	078	11 47 32	-148.6	-149.0	-149.2	-148.5	-147.7	-149.2
14	077	23 25 51	-148.3	-149.1	-150.2	-150.3	-149.0	-150.3	67	078	11 59 29	-148.3	-148.6	-149.0	-148.4	-147.4	-149.0
15	077	23 38 58	-149.4	-149.3	-150.5	-150.8	-149.7	-150.8	68	078	11 13 45	-148.5	-148.4	-149.0	-148.7	-147.6	-149.0
16	077	23 52 04	-148.8	-149.6	-150.7	-150.6	-149.7	-150.7	69	078	11 26 52	-148.1	-148.1	-148.1	-147.8	-146.8	-148.1
17	078	00 05 11	-148.5	-149.2	-150.6	-150.7	-149.4	-150.7	70	078	11 29 58	-148.6	-148.6	-149.1	-148.6	-147.3	-149.1
18	078	00 18 17	-148.2	-149.0	-150.7	-151.5	-149.8	-151.5	71	078	11 51 36	-144.7	-144.8	-145.0	-145.0	-145.0	-145.0
19	078	01 31 24	-148.4	-149.0	-150.4	-151.2	-149.9	-151.2	72	078	12 10 43	-148.1	-148.4	-148.4	-148.6	-147.2	-148.4
20	078	01 44 31	-148.5	-148.9	-150.5	-150.6	-149.3	-150.6	73	078	12 23 50	-147.2	-148.1	-148.1	-147.7	-146.5	-148.1
21	078	02 57 37	-147.8	-148.5	-150.0	-150.4	-149.0	-150.1	74	078	12 36 57	-147.5	-147.5	-147.5	-147.3	-146.7	-147.5
22	078	03 10 44	-148.7	-149.3	-150.7	-150.6	-149.0	-150.7	75	078	12 50 03	-147.2	-147.7	-147.8	-147.2	-146.4	-147.8
23	078	03 23 50	-148.3	-149.0	-150.4	-150.6	-149.7	-150.8	76	078	13 03 16	-147.0	-147.2	-147.3	-147.2	-146.5	-147.3
24	078	03 36 57	-148.0	-148.6	-150.2	-150.5	-149.5	-150.5	77	078	13 16 17	-148.1	-148.2	-148.3	-148.0	-147.3	-148.3
25	078	03 50 03	-149.0	-149.7	-151.4	-151.7	-150.3	-151.7	78	078	13 29 24	-147.4	-147.1	-147.0	-146.6	-146.1	-147.4
26	078	02 03 10	-148.6	-149.4	-152.8	-151.1	-149.8	-151.1	79	078	13 42 31	-147.3	-147.3	-147.4	-147.1	-146.2	-147.4
27	078	02 16 16	-149.5	-150.1	-151.5	-151.3	-149.6	-151.3	80	078	13 55 37	-147.3	-147.6	-147.7	-147.3	-146.4	-147.7
28	078	02 29 23	-149.0	-149.8	-151.2	-151.3	-151.1	-151.3	81	078	14 08 44	-147.2	-147.3	-147.3	-146.9	-146.0	-147.3
29	078	02 42 30	-150.2	-150.9	-152.2	-152.0	-151.1	-152.2	82	078	14 21 51	-147.8	-147.9	-148.1	-147.8	-147.0	-148.1
30	078	02 55 36	-150.4	-151.1	-152.9	-152.7	-151.6	-152.9	83	078	14 34 58	-147.7	-147.6	-147.8	-147.5	-146.8	-147.8
31	078	03 08 13	-151.4	-152.0	-153.5	-152.7	-151.6	-153.5	84	078	14 48 05	-146.5	-147.3	-147.3	-147.0	-146.0	-147.3
32	078	03 21 49	-152.3	-152.8	-154.5	-154.5	-152.6	-154.5	85	078	15 01 11	-146.8	-146.7	-146.7	-146.7	-146.2	-146.8
33	078	03 34 56	-151.8	-152.2	-154.1	-153.3	-151.9	-154.1	86	078	15 14 18	-146.4	-146.2	-146.5	-146.6	-145.4	-146.6
34	078	03 48 02	-150.6	-151.1	-153.2	-152.9	-152.3	-153.2	87	078	15 27 23	-146.1	-145.7	-145.9	-145.9	-145.3	-146.1
35	078	04 01 09	-150.3	-150.7	-152.6	-152.6	-151.8	-152.6	88	078	15 40 32	-145.7	-145.7	-145.6	-145.5	-144.8	-145.7
36	078	04 14 16	-150.5	-151.4	-152.8	-152.3	-151.2	-152.8	89	078	15 53 29	-145.3	-145.7	-145.5	-145.3	-144.7	-145.7
37	078	04 27 22	-150.3	-150.5	-151.9	-151.3	-150.3	-151.9	90	078	16 06 45	-146.1	-146.0	-145.9	-145.9	-144.9	-146.1
38	078	04 40 29	-150.4	-151.2	-152.9	-152.6	-151.2	-152.9	91	078	16 19 52	-146.5	-146.0	-145.1	-145.8	-145.0	-146.5
39	078	04 53 35	-151.2	-151.5	-153.0	-152.0	-151.1	-153.0	92	078	16 32 59	-146.6	-146.9	-146.9	-146.7	-145.4	-146.6
40	078	05 06 12	-152.0	-152.1	-153.1	-152.6	-151.1	-153.7	93	078	16 46 06	-147.3	-147.6	-147.8	-147.5	-146.2	-147.8
41	078	05 19 18	-150.5	-151.1	-152.3	-151.7	-150.5	-152.3	94	078	16 59 12	-147.0	-147.0	-147.3	-146.9	-146.0	-147.3
42	078	05 32 55	-150.6	-151.2	-152.4	-151.5	-150.1	-152.4	95	078	17 12 19	-147.1	-147.4	-147.7	-147.4	-145.9	-147.7
43	078	05 46 02	-150.6	-151.2	-152.7	-152.0	-150.1	-152.7	96	078	17 25 26	-147.2	-147.6	-147.9	-147.6	-146.3	-147.9
44	078	05 59 08	-150.3	-150.8	-152.1	-151.5	-150.5	-152.1	97	078	17 38 33	-147.9	-147.9	-148.3	-148.3	-147.3	-148.3
45	078	06 12 15	-150.3	-150.8	-152.1	-151.5	-150.1	-152.1	98	078	18 04 49	-147.2	-147.6	-147.8	-147.8	-146.9	-147.8
46	078	06 25 22	-150.4	-151.2	-152.4	-151.6	-150.3	-152.4	99	078	18 17 53	-146.6	-147.1	-147.3	-147.3	-146.7	-147.6
47	078	06 38 24	-150.6	-151.2	-152.5	-151.9	-150.5	-152.5	100	078	18 31 00	-146.6	-147.1	-147.3	-147.3	-146.7	-147.6
48	078	06 51 31	-150.7	-151.5	-152.3	-151.5	-150.3	-152.3	101	078	18 44 06	-147.3	-147.3	-147.9	-147.9	-146.7	-147.9
49	078	07 04 11	-151.0	-151.4	-152.5	-151.8	-150.9	-152.5	102	078	18 44 06	-147.1	-147.0	-147.4	-147.2	-146.3	-147.4
50	078	07 17 14	-150.8	-151.4	-152.2	-151.3	-150.1	-152.2	103	078	18 57 13	-147.1	-147.7	-147.7	-147.4	-146.2	-147.7
51	078	07 30 54	-150.6	-151.0	-152.2	-151.9	-150.7	-152.2	104	078	19 10 20	-146.8	-147.1	-147.6	-147.6	-146.5	-147.8
52	078	07 44 01	-151.1	-151.7	-153.0	-152.1	-150.3	-153.0	105	078	19 23 26	-147.0	-147.3	-147.5	-147.3	-146.3	-147.5

NRL REPORT 8039

Table 7 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days
77 and 78, 1974

DAILY MEAN	1	3	4	5	MIN	
	16.8	-1.92	150.1	149.4	-114.7	-150.2
STANDARD DEV.	1.7	1.8	2.3	2.2	2.1	2.3

PROBABILITY DENSITY										
151.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.9	0	0.0	2	1.9
152.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	7	0.7	2	1.9	0	0.0
152.6	2	1.9	6	5.7	13	21.9	12	11.4	2	1.9
151.0	13	10.5	21	26.0	5	1.8	27	25.7	13	12.4
150.0	5	1.5	23	21.9	25	21.8	21	20.6	23	21.9
149.0	3	1.5	30	21.6	5	1.8	2	1.9	23	21.9
148.6	30	21.6	15	21.1	5	1.8	7	6.7	1	3.8
147.0	23	21.9	21	20.0	20	19.0	21	20.0	9	8.6
146.0	18	9.5	6	5.7	5	1.8	7	6.7	22	21.9
145.0	2	1.9	4	3.8	4	3.8	6	5.7	1	3.8
144.0	1	1.0	1	1.0	1	1.0	0	0.0	5	4.8

CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION										
151.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	1.9	0	0.0	2	1.9
152.0	0	0.0	9	0.0	9	8.6	2	1.9	0	0.0
152.6	2	1.9	6	5.7	32	30.5	14	13.3	2	1.9
151.0	13	12.4	27	25.0	37	35.2	41	39.0	15	14.3
150.0	31	32.1	35	33.3	62	59.0	62	59.0	37	35.2
149.0	35	37.1	54	55.2	67	63.8	64	61.0	60	57.1
148.6	62	63.7	73	69.5	75	71.1	71	67.6	61	61.0
147.0	52	47.6	93	79.5	95	90.5	92	87.6	73	69.5
146.0	102	95.1	100	95.2	100	95.2	99	94.3	46	91.4
145.0	104	94.0	104	99.0	104	99.0	105	100.0	100	95.2
144.0	105	100.0	105	100.0	105	100.0	105	100.0	105	100.0

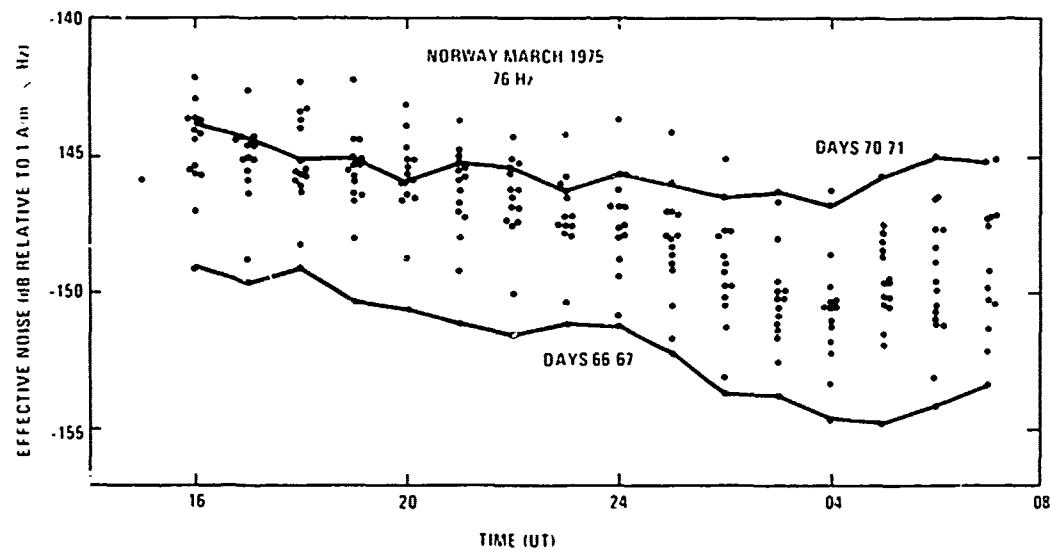


Fig. 5—Hourly samples of minimum effective noise, each averaged over 13 min, for March 1975. The quietest and noisiest days of the month are graphed and designated by Julian day numbers

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 8 — Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days 85 and 86, 1974 (Noisy Day)

SAMPLE NUMBER	DAY NUMBER	INTERNAL TIME	EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (DB RELATIVE TO 1A/m ² /√Hz)					
			1	2	3	4	5	MIN.
1	086	30 17 07	-143.4	-143.4	-143.4	-143.7	-143.1	-143.7
2	086	30 31 04	-143.3	-143.4	-143.5	-143.5	-143.6	-143.6
3	086	30 44 10	-142.7	-143.0	-142.7	-142.7	-142.2	-143.0
4	086	30 57 17	-142.7	-143.0	-142.8	-142.8	-142.2	-143.0
5	086	31 10 23	-142.5	-142.8	-142.8	-142.8	-142.1	-142.8
6	086	31 23 30	-142.5	-142.8	-142.8	-142.8	-142.0	-143.0
7	086	31 36 36	-142.7	-143.0	-143.0	-143.0	-142.2	-144.0
8	086	31 49 43	-143.9	-144.4	-144.6	-144.6	-143.2	-144.6
9	086	32 02 49	-148.4	-146.7	-146.9	-146.7	-146.6	-146.9
10	086	32 15 56	-148.0	-146.3	-146.3	-146.3	-146.0	-146.2
11	086	32 28 03	-148.3	-146.7	-146.9	-146.7	-146.0	-146.2
12	086	32 42 09	-144.8	-146.0	-146.2	-144.9	-144.0	-146.2
13	086	32 55 15	-148.1	-146.1	-146.1	-146.7	-144.8	-146.1
14	086	33 08 22	-148.1	-146.1	-146.3	-146.2	-145.7	-146.3
15	086	33 21 28	-146.2	-146.3	-146.4	-146.0	-145.1	-146.5
16	086	33 34 35	-146.7	-146.1	-146.8	-146.4	-146.6	-146.6
17	086	33 47 41	-148.4	-146.6	-146.7	-146.5	-146.1	-146.7
18	086	34 00 48	-146.8	-146.7	-146.8	-146.0	-146.2	-146.8
19	086	34 13 54	-146.6	-146.9	-147.1	-147.0	-146.9	-147.1
20	086	34 27 01	-147.3	-147.6	-147.0	-147.7	-146.8	-146.1
21	086	34 40 07	-147.7	-148.2	-147.1	-148.2	-146.8	-147.7
22	086	34 53 14	-147.8	-147.8	-147.2	-147.9	-146.1	-148.2
23	086	35 06 20	-148.1	-149.2	-148.1	-148.2	-147.1	-148.7
24	086	35 19 26	-147.8	-147.8	-148.1	-148.1	-147.1	-148.2
25	086	35 32 33	-148.2	-148.3	-147.9	-146.9	-148.3	-148.3
26	086	35 45 39	-148.1	-148.7	-148.7	-147.3	-149.2	-148.1
27	086	35 58 46	-148.6	-148.8	-149.1	-147.7	-149.4	-148.6
28	086	02 11 52	-149.6	-149.6	-150.0	-149.6	-150.0	-149.6
29	086	02 24 59	-149.1	-149.4	-149.7	-149.2	-149.6	-149.7
30	086	02 38 06	-149.7	-150.1	-150.1	-149.6	-149.5	-150.1
31	086	02 51 12	-149.3	-150.1	-150.7	-150.0	-149.2	-150.7
32	086	03 04 18	-149.2	-149.8	-150.1	-149.2	-150.1	-149.2
33	086	03 17 25	-149.5	-149.6	-150.2	-149.6	-150.2	-149.5
34	086	03 30 31	-149.6	-150.0	-150.6	-149.6	-150.6	-149.6
35	086	03 43 37	-150.6	-151.1	-151.1	-150.6	-149.5	-151.1
36	086	03 56 44	-150.3	-150.3	-151.1	-150.3	-149.1	-151.1
37	086	04 09 50	-149.6	-150.2	-150.1	-149.8	-149.6	-150.1
38	086	04 22 57	-148.4	-148.7	-149.1	-148.7	-147.7	-149.1
39	086	04 36 03	-149.3	-149.3	-149.7	-148.0	-149.1	-149.3
40	086	04 49 10	-148.7	-148.9	-149.0	-148.6	-149.0	-148.9
41	086	05 02 16	-148.5	-148.5	-148.5	-148.0	-148.6	-148.6
42	086	05 15 23	-148.6	-149.0	-149.0	-148.5	-147.7	-149.0
43	086	05 28 29	-148.1	-148.6	-148.7	-148.2	-147.5	-148.7
44	086	05 41 36	-148.3	-148.5	-148.6	-148.0	-147.2	-148.5
45	086	05 54 12	-147.6	-147.9	-147.6	-147.1	-146.8	-147.9
46	086	06 07 19	-147.5	-147.7	-147.8	-147.6	-147.0	-147.8
47	086	06 20 55	-147.3	-147.0	-147.1	-147.1	-146.3	-147.1
48	086	06 34 02	-147.6	-147.7	-147.0	-147.8	-147.2	-147.9
49	086	06 47 09	-146.7	-147.1	-147.2	-147.0	-146.2	-147.2
50	086	07 01 15	-147.0	-147.0	-147.3	-146.8	-146.9	-147.1
51	086	07 13 21	-147.0	-148.9	-147.0	-148.6	-146.9	-147.0

SAMPLE NUMBER	DAY NUMBER	INTERNAL TIME	EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (DB RELATIVE TO 1A/m ² /√Hz)					
			1	2	3	4	5	MIN.
52	086	07 26 28	-145.0	-147.0	-146.7	-146.6	-146.0	-147.0
53	086	07 39 34	-146.9	-147.2	-147.1	-146.9	-146.6	-147.2
54	086	07 52 41	-147.0	-148.0	-147.2	-147.2	-146.7	-147.2
55	086	08 05 47	-147.1	-147.0	-147.0	-146.6	-146.1	-147.1
56	086	08 18 53	-147.1	-147.3	-147.0	-146.8	-145.9	-147.1
57	086	08 32 00	-146.9	-146.6	-146.2	-146.6	-146.0	-146.4
58	086	08 45 07	-146.9	-146.9	-146.6	-146.6	-146.1	-146.2
59	086	08 58 13	-146.7	-145.0	-145.8	-145.7	-144.7	-145.8
60	086	09 11 20	-146.0	-145.8	-145.8	-145.7	-144.8	-146.0
61	086	09 24 26	-146.1	-146.1	-146.3	-146.3	-145.2	-146.1
62	086	09 37 33	-146.1	-145.6	-145.7	-145.7	-144.7	-146.6
63	086	09 50 39	-145.1	-145.1	-145.0	-145.1	-144.7	-145.3
64	086	10 03 46	-144.7	-144.6	-144.5	-144.3	-143.8	-144.7
65	086	10 16 52	-144.5	-144.6	-144.4	-144.2	-143.8	-144.6
66	086	10 29 58	-144.6	-144.4	-144.4	-144.3	-143.4	-144.6
67	086	10 42 05	-144.8	-144.6	-144.4	-144.4	-143.7	-144.8
68	086	10 54 11	-144.6	-144.6	-144.6	-144.2	-143.2	-144.6
69	086	11 07 18	-144.3	-144.3	-144.3	-144.1	-143.7	-144.3
70	086	11 22 24	-145.2	-144.8	-144.9	-144.8	-144.1	-146.2
71	086	11 40 41	-144.8	-145.0	-146.1	-146.4	-145.6	-146.6
72	086	11 53 48	-145.1	-145.1	-145.2	-145.2	-144.3	-146.2
73	086	12 06 55	-146.1	-146.1	-146.3	-146.3	-145.4	-146.3
74	086	12 20 02	-145.4	-145.3	-145.3	-145.2	-144.5	-146.4
75	086	12 33 08	-144.5	-144.7	-144.7	-144.7	-143.8	-144.9
76	086	12 46 15	-144.3	-144.3	-144.5	-144.4	-143.8	-144.7
77	086	12 59 22	-144.8	-144.8	-144.9	-144.9	-144.4	-145.0
78	086	13 12 29	-144.1	-144.1	-144.6	-144.3	-143.4	-144.6
79	086	13 25 36	-143.8	-144.1	-144.1	-144.2	-143.3	-144.2
80	086	13 32 43	-145.0	-144.9	-144.9	-144.9	-143.3	-145.0
81	086	13 45 50	-143.5	-143.5	-143.4	-143.7	-143.2	-143.5
82	086	14 04 57	-143.1	-143.1	-143.2	-143.4	-143.1	-143.5
83	086	14 18 04	-143.8	-144.3	-144.9	-145.0	-144.7	-144.3
84	086	14 31 10	-144.8	-144.9	-144.9	-145.0	-144.0	-145.7
85	086	14 44 17	-144.7	-144.7	-144.6	-144.7	-144.0	-144.7
86	086	14 57 24	-144.9	-145.4	-145.5	-145.2	-144.6	-145.5
87	086	15 10 31	-145.3	-145.6	-145.6	-145.9	-145.4	-146.9
88	086	15 23 38	-146.8	-146.9	-146.6	-146.5	-146.8	-146.9
89	086	15 36 45	-146.5	-146.2	-146.3	-146.8	-146.0	-146.5
90	086	15 49 52	-145.0	-145.2	-145.2	-145.1	-144.5	-145.3
91	086	16 02 58	-146.5	-145.7	-145.5	-145.3	-144.3	-145.7
92	086	16 16 05	-145.0	-145.6	-145.5	-145.5	-144.6	-145.6
93	086	16 29 12	-145.0	-145.0	-145.0	-145.0	-145.2	-145.0
94	086	16 42 19	-145.8	-145.4	-145.3	-145.3	-144.1	-145.6
95	086	16 55 26	-145.6	-145.7	-145.7	-145.6	-144.7	-145.8
96	086	17 08 33	-145.1	-145.8	-146.0	-146.9	-145.8	-146.1
97	086	17 21 40	-146.2	-146.0	-145.9	-145.8	-144.7	-146.2
98	086	17 34 46	-146.0	-146.1	-146.2	-146.1	-145.1	-146.2
99	086	17 47 53	-145.3	-146.0	-146.1	-146.0	-145.1	-146.3
100	086	18 01 00	-145.7	-145.0	-145.9	-145.6	-145.0	-146.0
101	086	18 14 07	-146.0	-146.6	-146.5	-146.5	-145.3	-146.7
102	086	18 27 14	-145.8	-145.8	-145.9	-146.0	-144.9	-146.0

*RECORDING ERROR

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NRL REPORT 8039

Table 9 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days
85 and 86, 1974

	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
DAILY MEAN	-146.1	-146.3	-146.3	-146.1	-145.3	-146.1
STANDARD DEV	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.2

PROBABILITY DENSITY												
-151.9	0	0.0	1	1.0	2	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	2.0
-150.0	2	2.0	5	4.9	7	6.9	3	2.9	0	0.3	7	6.9
-149.0	9	8.8	5	4.9	5	4.9	8	7.8	1	3.9	5	4.9
-148.0	10	9.8	11	10.4	10	9.8	10	9.4	6	5.9	13	9.8
-147.0	10	9.8	12	11.4	11	10.8	9	8.8	13	12.7	1	11.4
-146.0	20	19.6	28	19.4	18	17.6	18	17.6	11	10.8	26	19.6
-145.0	22	21.6	27	19.6	22	21.6	24	23.5	17	17.6	21	20.6
-144.0	16	15.7	4	17.6	12	16.7	18	17.6	19	27.5	15	15.1
-143.0	9	8.8	6	5.9	5	4.9	8	7.8	16	15.7	7	6.9
-142.0	3	2.9	*	2.9	4	3.9	3	2.9	5	1.9	2	2.0
-141.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
-140.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
-139.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
-138.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
-137.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
-136.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.0	1	1.0	0	0.0	1	1.0
-135.0	0	0.0	1	1.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
-134.0	1	1.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.0	0	0.0

CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION												
-151.0	0	0.0	1	1.0	2	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	2.0
-150.0	2	2.0	6	5.9	4	4.8	3	2.9	1	3.9	9	8.8
-149.0	11	10.8	21	10.8	14	13.7	11	10.8	1	3.9	14	14.7
-148.0	21	20.6	22	21.6	21	23.5	21	20.6	10	2.8	21	23.5
-147.0	31	30.4	32	33.3	35	31.3	30	29.4	23	3.6	35	33.3
-146.0	51	50.0	54	52.9	53	57.0	58	57.1	31	5.6	51	51.9
-145.0	72	71.6	74	72.5	75	73.5	72	70.6	57	51.3	77	71.6
-144.0	89	87.3	92	90.2	97	90.2	90	88.2	80	78.1	92	90.2
-143.0	98	97.1	99	96.1	97	95.1	97	96.1	86	91.1	93	97.1
-142.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0
-141.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0
-140.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0
-139.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0
-138.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0
-137.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	102	99.0
-136.0	101	99.0	101	99.0	102	100.0	102	100.0	101	99.0	102	100.0
-135.0	102	99.0	102	100.0	102	100.0	102	100.0	101	99.0	102	100.0
-134.0	102	100.0	102	100.0	102	100.0	102	100.0	102	100.0	102	100.0

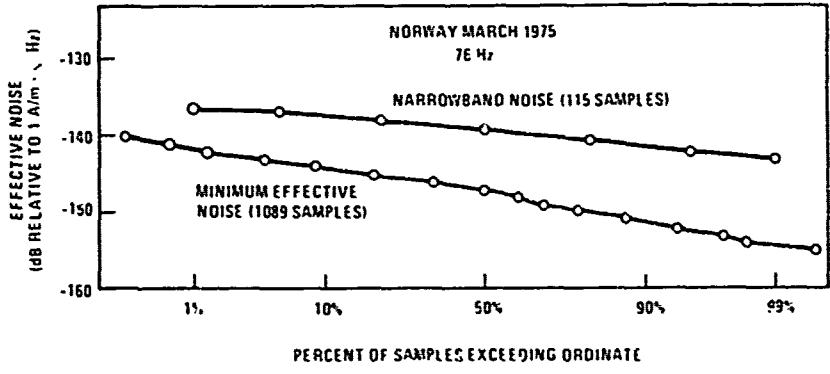


Fig. 6—Cumulative probability distribution of minimum effective noise samples compared with narrowband noise for March 1975

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 10 — Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days 66 and 67, 1974 (Quiet Day)

NRL REPORT 8039

Table 11 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days
66 and 67, 1975

	1	2	3	4	5	MNS
DAILY MEAN	150.0	150.4	151.7	151.2	150.3	151.4
STANDARD DEV.	1.1	2.7	2.3	1.7	1.6	2.1
PROBABILITY DENSITY						
150.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
151.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
152.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
153.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
154.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
155.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
156.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
157.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
158.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
159.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
160.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
161.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
162.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
163.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
164.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
165.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
166.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
167.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
168.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
169.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
170.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
171.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION						
150.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
151.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
152.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
153.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
154.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
155.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
156.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
157.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
158.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
159.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
160.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
161.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
162.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
163.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
164.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
165.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
166.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
167.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
168.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
169.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
170.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
171.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

shows the relative consistency of clipper 3 as the most effective of the processor channels throughout the day with, however, some diversity of performance among the clippers near the bottom of the table. For example, samples 42, 47, 51, 56, 65 and 70 show 1.3 to 2.2 dB of difference in performance between clippers 3 and 4 but only tenths of a decibel difference between clippers 4 and 5, implying that rather large short-term changes in noise conditions took place during this period. Julian days 66 and 67 of 1975 (March 7 and 8) were the beginning of a period of major geophysical disturbance that showed the greatest effect on ELF propagation paths from the Navy test transmitter in Wisconsin to receivers in the northeastern United States, Greenland, and Norway of all of the ELF propagation measurements that have been made to date. The unusually low effective noise indicated in Fig. 5 for this period thus probably resulted from this propagation disturbance affecting atmospheric noise propagation northward from more southerly latitudes. Table 11 contains statistical data for this day indicating that, averaged over the entire day, clippers 3 and 4 both provided good performance.

Table 12 contains sample-by-sample data for the noisy-day case in Fig. 5. The choice among clipper channels varies, as has been shown above to be true in general for relatively noisy conditions. For all samples, however, at least two clipper channels provide nearly equivalent performance, in distinction from the quiet-day case. Thus, even under vigorously disturbed propagation conditions, the choice among clipping levels is less critical for

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 12 — Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days 70 and 71, 1975 (Noisy Day)

SAMPLE NUMBER	DAY NUMBER	UNIVERSAL TIME	EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL DB RELATIVE TO 1A W ₀ NO					
			1	2	3	4	5	MIN
1	70	07 00 00	144.2	144.3	144.3	142.7	142.9	144.1
2	70	07 05 00	146.3	146.2	145.2	144.8	143.8	145.2
3	70	07 10 00	144.4	144.9	144.6	142.9	143.6	144.9
4	70	07 15 00	144.9	145.5	144.9	143.9	142.3	145.0
5	70	07 20 00	145.4	145.6	145.2	145.1	144.1	145.6
6	70	07 25 00	146.2	146.7	146.7	145.9	144.6	145.9
7	70	07 30 00	145.5	145.6	145.6	144.7	143.1	144.6
8	70	07 35 00	145.1	145.2	145.9	144.5	143.7	145.1
9	70	07 40 00	145.7	146.2	146.6	145.5	144.3	146.2
10	70	07 45 00	144.9	145.2	145.4	144.5	143.6	145.0
11	70	07 50 00	145.9	145.3	145.7	145.7	144.4	145.1
12	70	07 55 00	145.4	145.4	145.6	145.2	143.5	145.4
13	70	08 00 00	145.2	145.5	145.7	145.2	143.9	145.2
14	70	08 05 00	145.4	145.4	145.4	145.7	143.5	145.2
15	70	08 10 00	145.9	146.2	146.4	145.6	144.3	145.9
16	70	08 15 00	146.2	146.7	146.7	145.9	144.9	146.2
17	70	08 20 00	146.2	146.7	146.3	145.4	143.7	146.2
18	70	08 25 00	146.1	146.7	146.3	145.5	144.1	146.1
19	70	08 30 00	145.9	145.7	145.9	145.2	144.1	145.1
20	70	08 35 00	145.9	145.9	145.9	145.7	144.5	145.7
21	70	08 40 00	146.0	146.5	146.3	145.7	144.5	146.0
22	70	08 45 00	146.0	146.5	146.4	145.6	144.5	146.0
23	70	08 50 00	145.7	146.2	146.2	145.5	144.5	145.7
24	70	08 55 00	146.0	146.7	146.2	145.3	144.1	146.0
25	70	09 00 00	146.2	146.7	146.9	146.9	144.9	146.2
26	70	09 05 00	145.7	146.2	146.3	145.2	144.0	145.7
27	70	09 10 00	145.7	146.2	146.4	145.4	144.0	145.7
28	70	09 15 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
29	70	09 20 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
30	70	09 25 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
31	70	09 30 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
32	70	09 35 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
33	70	09 40 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
34	70	09 45 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
35	70	09 50 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
36	70	09 55 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
37	70	10 00 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
38	70	10 05 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
39	70	10 10 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
40	70	10 15 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
41	70	10 20 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
42	70	10 25 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
43	70	10 30 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
44	70	10 35 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
45	70	10 40 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
46	70	10 45 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
47	70	10 50 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
48	70	10 55 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
49	70	11 00 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
50	70	11 05 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
51	70	11 10 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
52	70	11 15 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
53	70	11 20 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
54	70	11 25 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
55	70	11 30 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
56	70	11 35 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
57	70	11 40 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
58	70	11 45 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
59	70	11 50 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
60	70	11 55 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
61	70	12 00 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
62	70	12 05 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
63	70	12 10 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
64	70	12 15 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
65	70	12 20 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
66	70	12 25 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
67	70	12 30 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
68	70	12 35 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
69	70	12 40 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
70	71	01 00 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
71	71	01 05 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
72	71	01 10 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
73	71	01 15 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
74	71	01 20 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
75	71	01 25 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
76	71	01 30 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
77	71	01 35 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
78	71	01 40 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
79	71	01 45 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
80	71	01 50 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
81	71	01 55 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
82	71	02 00 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
83	71	02 05 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
84	71	02 10 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
85	71	02 15 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
86	71	02 20 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
87	71	02 25 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
88	71	02 30 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
89	71	02 35 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
90	71	02 40 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
91	71	02 45 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
92	71	02 50 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
93	71	02 55 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
94	71	03 00 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
95	71	03 05 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
96	71	03 10 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
97	71	03 15 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
98	71	03 20 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
99	71	03 25 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
100	71	03 30 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
101	71	03 35 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
102	71	03 40 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
103	71	03 45 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
104	71	03 50 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
105	71	03 55 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
106	71	04 00 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
107	71	04 05 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
108	71	04 10 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
109	71	04 15 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
110	71	04 20 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
111	71	04 25 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
112	71	04 30 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
113	71	04 35 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
114	71	04 40 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7
115	71	04 45 00	145.7	146.2	146.5	145.5	144.0	145.7

Table 13 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days
70 and 71, 1975

	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
DAILY MEAN	144.1	144.9	145.2	144.7	143.4	145.5
STANDARD DEV.	2.5	1.9	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.3

PROBABILITY DENSITY												
147.0	0	0.0	1	1.4	1	1.7	0	0.2	1	0.9	1	1.1
146.0	19	26.1	17	21.6	22	20.5	17	22	20	24.6	16	28.1
145.0	19	26.1	22	21.9	23	21.7	22	22	22	24.6	16	28.1
144.0	11	15.3	11	15.3	17	21.4	22	21.9	22	24.6	11	23.2
143.0	1	5.6	11	15.3	3	4.9	7	5.7	7	9.4	1	5.6
142.0	1	4.2	4	4.3	0	0.0	1	1.2	6	5.7	0	0.0
141.0	1	4.2	1	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	1.2	0	0.0
140.0	4	11.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
139.0	5	6.9	0	0.0	1	1.1	1	1.1	0	0.0	1	1.1
138.0	1	1.4	1	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.1	1	1.1
137.0	4	6.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
136.0	1	1.1	1	1.1	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
135.0	0	0.6	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
134.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
133.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION												
147.0	0	0.0	1	1.4	1	1.7	0	0.2	1	0.9	1	1.1
146.0	19	26.1	19	25.9	22	21.9	1	3.4	4	0.0	22	27.5
145.0	19	26.1	22	25.9	23	21.7	1	3.4	0	0.0	22	27.5
144.0	11	15.3	11	15.3	17	21.4	22	21.9	22	24.6	11	23.2
143.0	1	5.6	11	15.3	3	4.9	7	5.7	7	9.4	1	5.6
142.0	1	4.2	4	4.3	0	0.0	1	1.2	6	5.7	0	0.0
141.0	1	4.2	1	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	1.2	0	0.0
140.0	4	11.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
139.0	5	6.9	0	0.0	1	1.1	1	1.1	0	0.0	1	1.1
138.0	1	1.4	1	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.1	1	1.1
137.0	4	6.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
136.0	1	1.1	1	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
135.0	0	0.6	0	0.0	1	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
134.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.4	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0
133.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0

relatively noisy conditions than for quiet conditions. Table 13 bears out this indication. Table 14 contains the statistics of all 1089 samples acquired during March 1975. Figure 6 contains the comparison of cumulative probability distributions between minimum effective noise and the narrowband noise data that were recorded simultaneously. Both graphs are virtually indistinguishable from those of Fig. 4, indicating seasonal consistency of the noise from year to year.

Figures 7-8 and Tables 15-19 contain summer data from July and August 1975. The indication of diurnal variation is less distinct than for the winter data, as might be expected both from the circumstance that the overhead ionosphere is continuously sunlit in summer at Tromsø and because thunderstorms in the area become important noise sources. Figure 7 shows what may indicate a diurnal trend of minimum noise in the early morning and maximum noise in late afternoon and evening. There seems to be an intra-day minimum near 17 UT.

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 14 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level. March 1975

The large disparity between the noisiest and quietest days in Fig. 7 may be attributable to the fact that the two-week period in which they fell was a period of substantial geophysical disturbance, with several magnetic storms and considerable variability in ELF propagation conditions. Conceivably, the apparent diurnal noise minimum near 17 UT in Fig. 7 could be an artifact of the geophysical disturbance that affected the ionosphere during most of the data collection period.

Table 15 shows sample-by-sample data from the quiet-day case (day 226), with one clipper channel as the consistent best or near-best choice for the entire day, as expected. Table 16 confirms this circumstance and indicates once more that for relatively quiet conditions, there can be substantial differences in performance among clipper channels. Table 17 shows the noisy-day sample-by-sample data, with far more variance in channel choice than on the quiet day, but also much less of a performance differential among channels. Table 18 reflects this relative uniformity of performance, showing only 0.4 dB of difference in daily mean effective noise level among four clipper channels. Table 19

NRL REPORT 8039

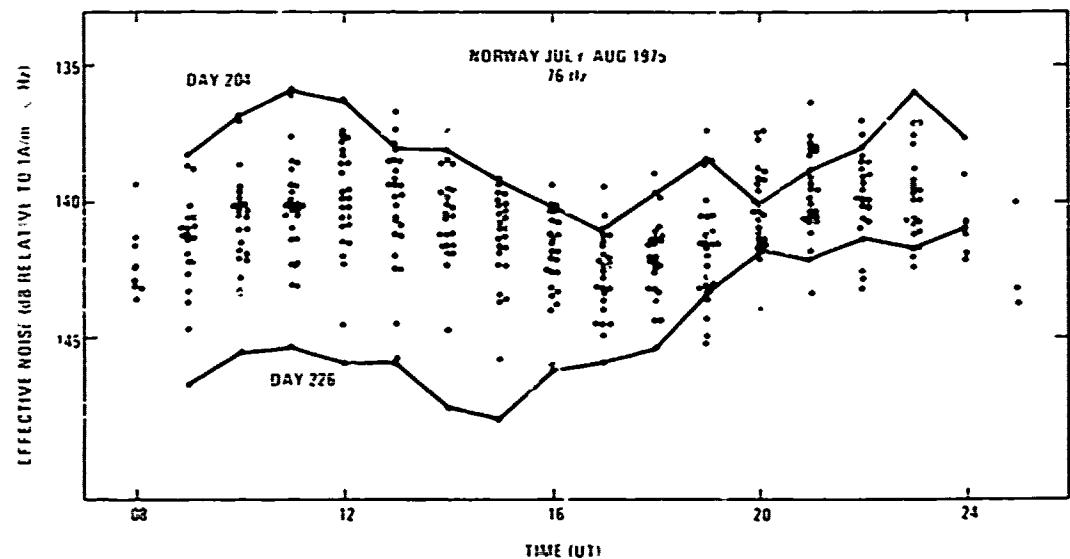


Fig. 7—Hourly samples of minimum effective noise, each averaged over 13 min, for July and August 1975. The quietest and noisiest days of the month are graphed and designated by Julian day numbers

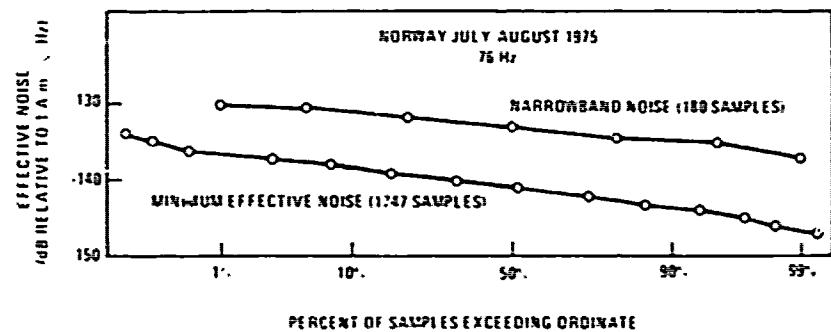


Fig. 8—Cumulative probability distribution of minimum effective noise samples compared with narrowband noise for July and August 1975

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 15 — Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Day 226, 1975 (Quiet Day)

NRL REPORT 8039

Table 16 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Day
226, 1975

DAILY MEAN	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
	-107.0	-107.0	-107.0	-107.0	-107.0	-107.0
STANDARD DEV	1.0	2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0

PROBABILITY DENSITY									
-108.0	0.00	3.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.13	
-107.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.0
-106.0	10.13	16.20	11.16	18.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	71.1
-105.0	37.38	16.22	22.21	21.4	4.57	0.00	0.00	16.22	19
-104.0	9.12	2.29	11.10	10.7	19.27	21.1	6.86	3.13	4.3
-103.0	1.43	1.67	3.43	19.21	16.21	21.4	4.57	6.7	
-102.0	6.71	6.71	6.66	6.71	23.32	29	6.71	7.1	
-101.0	12.16	11.16	14.16	10.16	14.2	5.71	11.20	11.20	
-100.0	3.43	5.71	4.67	11.16	15.7	13.18	1.14	1.14	
-99.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.29	7.10	0.00	0.00	
-98.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.11	0.00	0.00	

CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION									
-108.0	0.00	3.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.13	4.3	
-107.0	0.00	12.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.13	
-106.0	10.13	27.38	11.16	18.1	0.00	0.00	0.00	36.0	
-105.0	37.38	52.9	13.61	33.16	4.57	0.00	0.00	61.1	
-104.0	9.12	45.67	16.21	42.9	23.32	6.86	16.22	66.7	
-103.0	1.43	70.0	19.70	47.61	12.20	21.4	50.71	71.1	
-102.0	6.71	77.1	64.77	53.78	17.67	11.62	65.74	74.6	
-101.0	37.96	96.7	86.92	86.91	87.81	89.70	89.86	98.6	
-100.0	70.100	100.0	70.100	70.100	84.97	82.88	70.100	100.0	
-99.0	70.100	100.0	70.100	70.100	70.100	69.98	70.100	100.0	
-98.0	70.100	100.0	70.100	70.100	70.100	70.100	70.100	100.0	

contains the monthly statistical data for the five clipper channels and for the minimum effective noise channel for each sample. Figure 8 illustrates the nearly log-normal characteristic of summer nonlinear processed data, with a hint of a tail at amplitudes above the 1% exceedence level, indicating some residual spikiness in the data.

Comparison of narrowband with wideband noise data, if taken at face value in Fig. 8, suggests that nonlinear processing is less advantageous for high-noise data than for the winter and spring (low-noise) data. However, as explained above, under summer conditions the narrowband recording system imposes an unspecified degree of preclipping on the data and causes an under-estimate of the noise level. Nonlinear processing thus achieves at least the 8 dB of advantage in S/N indicated by Fig. 8 and probably exceeds that advantage considerably.

Figures 9-10 and Tables 20-24 contain data from October and November 1975. Diurnal variation and mean effective noise levels similar to those of the winter data are evident in Fig. 9. (Relative to the winter solstice, these fall data would correspond to a period between the January and March data.) The extent of the diurnal variation is 5 to 7 dB, in agreement with the January 1974 examples. The quiet-day and noisy-day extremes in Fig. 9 are significantly separated, particularly in the morning hours that were shown in the midwinter data of January 1974 to be substantially separated as

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 17 — Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Day 204, 1975 (Noisy Day)

SAMPLE NUMBER	DAY NUMBER	INTERVAL TIME	EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL				
			1	2	3	4	5
1	204	08 38 21	-138.2	-138.6	-137.9	-137.6	-134.6
2	204	08 51 31	-138.4	-138.5	-138.0	-137.4	-134.5
3	204	09 04 36	-137.8	-138.2	-137.7	-136.9	-138.3
4	204	09 11 15	-137.4	-137.3	-137.1	-136.7	-137.6
5	204	09 20 52	-138.0	-138.2	-137.9	-137.4	-138.5
6	204	09 21 59	-137.7	-137.5	-137.2	-137.0	-137.7
7	204	09 27 07	-136.6	-136.8	-136.1	-136.2	-136.8
8	204	10 10 14	-137.6	-137.5	-137.1	-137.4	-137.6
9	204	10 23 21	-136.4	-136.1	-136.0	-135.5	-136.4
10	204	10 36 28	-136.2	-136.1	-136.3	-136.1	-135.6
11	204	10 49 35	-136.1	-136.7	-136.5	-136.1	-135.9
12	204	11 02 42	-135.7	-135.4	-135.5	-135.2	-135.3
13	204	11 15 19	-137.4	-136.7	-137.1	-136.6	-137.4
14	204	11 24 56	-136.0	-136.0	-136.3	-136.1	-136.3
15	204	11 42 03	-135.7	-135.4	-135.4	-135.1	-135.7
16	204	11 55 11	-136.0	-136.3	-136.0	-135.6	-136.3
17	204	12 04 18	-136.1	-136.3	-136.1	-135.8	-136.4
18	204	12 21 25	-136.0	-136.2	-136.0	-135.8	-136.2
19	204	12 34 32	-136.5	-136.4	-136.7	-136.7	-136.8
20	204	12 47 39	-137.6	-137.5	-137.0	-136.8	-137.1
21	204	13 00 46	-138.0	-137.1	-137.1	-136.8	-136.5
22	204	13 13 53	-136.4	-137.1	-137.2	-136.9	-137.4
23	204	13 27 00	-137.3	-137.6	-137.7	-137.2	-136.9
24	204	13 40 07	-137.6	-138.1	-137.7	-137.1	-136.8
25	204	13 53 11	-138.4	-138.9	-138.7	-138.4	-137.5
26	204	14 06 21	-138.0	-138.1	-138.0	-137.1	-135.1
27	204	14 19 28	-138.2	-138.2	-138.0	-137.6	-137.0
28	204	14 32 35	-138.9	-138.9	-138.7	-138.4	-138.1
29	204	14 45 12	-139.0	-138.6	-139.3	-138.6	-139.3
30	204	14 58 19	-139.0	-139.0	-139.2	-138.5	-137.7
31	204	15 11 57	-139.1	-139.9	-139.9	-138.9	-139.9
32	204	15 25 01	-138.7	-138.6	-139.0	-138.5	-137.8
33	204	15 38 11	-139.6	-139.5	-139.8	-138.7	-139.8
34	204	15 51 18	-110.2	-110.1	-139.9	-139.2	-139.0
35	204	16 04 25	-139.9	-140.1	-140.1	-139.5	-140.1
36	204	16 17 32	-139.5	-139.1	-138.9	-129.0	-137.3
37	204	16 30 39	-140.5	-140.1	-140.4	-139.7	-138.6
38	204	16 43 16	-139.7	-139.7	-139.8	-139.2	-139.8
39	204	16 56 53	-141.3	-141.0	-141.0	-140.2	-141.3
40	204	17 10 00	-141.2	-141.0	-140.8	-139.7	-139.3
41	204	17 23 07	-140.5	-140.6	-140.6	-139.8	-140.6
42	204	17 36 15	-110.4	-110.5	-110.1	-110.1	-110.9
43	204	17 49 21	-140.2	-140.6	-140.3	-139.9	-140.6
44	204	18 02 28	-139.9	-139.3	-139.1	-139.0	-139.5
45	204	18 15 35	-140.2	-140.0	-139.8	-139.5	-140.2
46	204	18 28 42	-139.5	-139.2	-139.3	-138.8	-139.3
47	204	18 41 49	-139.1	-139.3	-139.1	-138.8	-139.4
48	204	18 54 56	-138.2	-138.5	-138.5	-138.1	-138.5
49	204	19 08 03	-138.4	-138.4	-128.6	-137.6	-138.8
50	204	19 21 10	-139.2	-139.6	-139.9	-139.5	-139.9
51	204	19 34 17	-139.3	-139.4	-139.1	-138.5	-139.5
52	204	19 47 24	-138.7	-138.4	-139.0	-138.5	-138.0
53	204	20 20 31	-138.9	-139.2	-139.5	-138.5	-139.2
54	204	20 33 38	-138.5	-138.4	-138.9	-138.3	-138.9
55	204	20 46 45	-139.0	-139.2	-139.0	-138.7	-139.2
56	204	20 59 52	-138.3	-138.2	-138.3	-138.1	-138.3
57	204	21 32 59	-138.9	-138.4	-138.4	-138.1	-138.9
58	204	21 46 06	-138.4	-138.9	-138.7	-138.5	-138.9
59	204	21 59 12	-137.1	-137.8	-137.5	-137.1	-137.8
60	204	22 32 19	-138.3	-137.9	-138.2	-138.1	-138.3
61	204	21 15 26	-137.0	-137.3	-137.3	-136.9	-137.0
62	204	21 54 33	-137.1	-137.7	-138.1	-137.5	-138.1
63	204	22 11 40	-137.1	-137.2	-137.6	-137.2	-137.7
64	204	22 24 47	-136.2	-136.9	-136.6	-136.3	-136.9
65	204	22 37 54	-136.6	-136.2	-136.7	-136.7	-136.7
66	204	22 51 01	-136.9	-137.1	-136.9	-137.0	-137.0
67	204	23 01 04	-135.7	-135.9	-136.0	-135.4	-135.3
68	204	23 17 15	-136.1	-135.9	-136.0	-136.2	-136.2
69	204	23 30 22	-137.3	-136.1	-136.3	-136.2	-136.4
70	204	23 13 29	-136.3	-136.6	-136.9	-136.5	-136.9
71	204	23 56 36	-137.2	-137.7	-137.6	-137.2	-137.7

NRL REPORT 8039

Table 13 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Day
204, 1975

DAILY MEAN	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
-138.1	-138.1	-134.1	-134.1	-137.7	-137.3	-134.3
STANDARD DEV.	1.1	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.4

PROBABILITY DENSITY								
-141.0	2 28	1 14	0 00	0 00	0 00	2 28	2 28	2 28
-140.0	6 85	8 113	7 99	2 28	0 00	7 99	7 99	7 99
-139.0	10 141	12 169	13 183	9 127	7 99	13 183	13 183	13 183
-138.0	18 254	19 254	19 268	21 296	13 183	19 268	19 268	19 268
-137.0	16 225	13 143	14 197	16 225	23 324	12 169	12 169	12 169
-136.0	15 211	14 197	15 211	17 239	16 225	16 225	16 225	16 225
-135.0	4 56	5 70	3 12	6 18	11 155	2 28	2 28	2 28
-134.0	0 00	0 00	7 00	0 00	1 14	0 00	0 00	0 00

CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION								
-141.0	2 28	1 14	0 00	0 00	0 00	2 28	2 28	2 28
-140.0	x 11.3	9 12.7	7 9.9	2 2.8	0 0.0	9 1.7	9 1.7	9 1.7
-139.0	18 25.4	21 29.6	20 28.2	11 15.5	7 9.9	22 31.0	22 31.0	22 31.0
-138.0	36 50.7	39 51.9	39 51.9	32 35.1	20 24.2	11 57.7	11 57.7	11 57.7
-137.0	52 73.2	52 73.2	53 74.6	18 67.6	13 60.6	53 74.6	53 74.6	53 74.6
-136.0	67 91.4	66 93.0	68 95.8	65 91.5	59 83.1	69 97.2	69 97.2	69 97.2
-135.0	71 100.0	71 100.0	71 100.0	71 100.0	70 94.6	71 100.0	71 100.0	71 100.0
-134.0	71 100.0	71 100.0	71 100.0	71 100.0	71 100.0	71 100.0	71 100.0	71 100.0

well. Table 20 contains the quiet-day sample-by-sample data, with little variation in best clipper choice during the later, quieter period of the data and several examples of substantial performance differences among channels. Table 21 contains statistical information for the quiet-day data.

Table 22 lists the noisy-day samples, shows their wider diversity of best clipping levels, and confirms the uniformity of clipper performance under these conditions. The statistical listings in Table 23 confirm these findings.

Table 24 contains the statistical accounting for the full month's data (a probability density is unavailable due to a computer error), and Fig. 10 compares minimum effective noise and narrowband noise cumulative probability distributions. Both graphs fall almost precisely between those for the January and March data, respectively.

CONCLUSIONS

Data presented in this report are from one-month collections of auroral zone ELF noise during each of the seasons of the year. They represent a reasonably comprehensive sampling of noise and propagation conditions, from stable to highly disturbed, and extend over nearly all hours of the day in each season. Lowest-noise fractions of the day have been left out of the summer and fall data, however.

Several important conclusions can be drawn:

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 19 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, July and August 1975

PROBABILITY DENSITY						
	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
-116.0	0.00	3.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.02
-117.0	0.00	9.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.05
-116.0	10.06	17.10	11.06	0.00	0.00	17.10
-115.0	35.20	25.14	24.16	1.92	0.00	25.14
-114.0	56.32	58.33	53.30	19.11	6.03	61.35
-113.0	114.67	129.74	126.72	51.29	16.09	140.80
-112.0	200.111	204.117	199.111	1.68	0.00	217.124
-111.0	353.202	326.186	329.186	213.139	140.107	347.195
-110.0	325.185	351.202	366.209	35.222	286.164	353.202
-109.0	301.172	300.172	300.172	39.225	155.260	274.157
-108.0	191.109	167.95	161.103	280.169	365.221	170.4
-107.0	100.57	100.57	100.57	110.80	215.123	16.34
-106.0	44.25	44.25	42.24	64.37	92.53	40.3
-105.0	11.06	9.05	10.06	16.09	30.17	4.01
-104.0	2.01	3.02	0.00	0.00	2.01	0.01
-103.0	1.01	0.00	0.00	1.01	1.01	0.01
-102.0	0.00	0.00	2.01	0.00	1.01	0.00
-101.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
-100.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.01	0.00	0.00
-129.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
-128.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
-127.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	1.01	1.01
-126.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.01	1.01	1.01
-125.0	0.00	1.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
-124.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
-123.0	0.00	1.01	1.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
-122.0	1.01	0.00	0.00	1.01	0.00	0.00
-121.0	1.01	0.00	1.01	1.01	0.00	0.00

CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION						
	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
-118.0	0.00	1.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.02
-117.0	0.00	12.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.07
-116.0	10.06	24.17	11.06	0.00	0.00	24.17
-115.0	45.26	54.31	39.22	4.92	0.00	54.31
-114.0	101.58	112.61	92.53	23.13	6.03	115.66
-113.0	219.125	241.138	214.125	71.12	22.13	255.114
-112.0	419.210	445.251	317.236	75.26	51.51	472.270
-111.0	772.141	771.141	716.127	163.265	25.154	819.164
-110.0	1097.627	1123.643	1112.636	551.187	561.322	1172.670
-109.0	1398.79	1425.815	1412.807	1245.712	1018.543	1416.827
-134.0	1589.909	1592.910	1593.911	1525.872	1106.404	1616.921
-137.0	1669.966	1692.967	1693.968	1665.952	1021.927	1702.973
-136.0	1733.991	1735.992	1735.992	1729.949	1713.974	1742.996
-135.0	1744.997	1744.997	1745.998	1745.998	1713.997	1745.998
-134.0	1745.994	1747.994	1745.994	1745.994	1715.995	1747.995
-133.0	1747.994	1747.994	1745.995	1746.995	1716.995	1747.995
-132.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1746.999	1717.999	1747.999
-131.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1746.999	1717.999	1747.999
-130.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1717.999	1747.999
-129.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1717.999	1747.999
-128.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1717.999	1747.999
-127.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1717.999	1747.999
-126.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1746.999	1716.100	1747.999
-125.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1746.999	1716.100	1747.999
-124.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1746.999	1716.100	1747.999
-123.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1746.999	1716.100	1747.999
-122.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1746.999	1716.100	1747.999
-121.0	1747.999	1747.999	1747.999	1746.999	1716.100	1747.999

• The typical monthly variation in minimum effective noise, between the noisiest and quietest days, is greatest in the 06-10 UT interval near the winter solstice, when the sunrise terminator approaches the receiving site with the steepest south-north trajectory. This confirms the expectation of greater variability of propagation conditions for noise propagating from the south during these rapid ionospheric changes than in other seasons. It may be concluded that the greatest variability in received S/N may be expected at receiver site midmorning.

• Under relatively quiet conditions, there is a gradual, regular, diurnal change of best clip level over a span of approximately 12 dB, but there is seldom more than a few tenths of a decibel difference in performance between clipper channels in this interval. Occasionally clipper channels separated by 6 dB yield as much as 2 dB of difference in performance, but these occasions are infrequent and of short duration.

NRL REPORT 8039

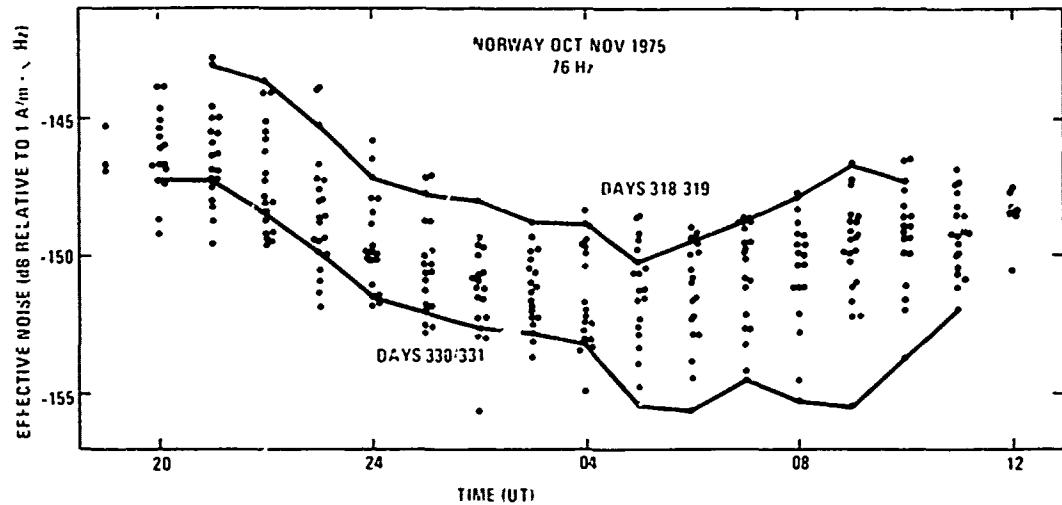


Fig. 9—Hourly samples of minimum effective noise, each averaged over 13 min, for October and November 1975. The quietest and noisiest days of the month are graphed and designated by Julian day numbers

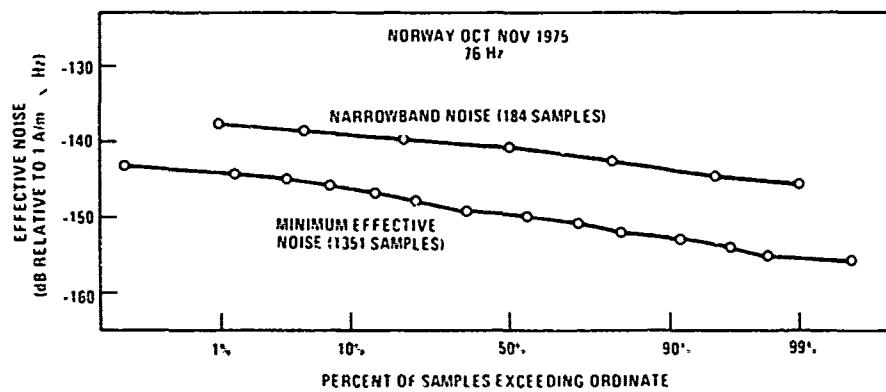


Fig. 10—Cumulative probability distribution of minimum effective noise samples compared with narrowband noise for October and November 1975

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 20 — Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days 330 and 31, 1975 (Quiet Day)

SAMPLE NUMBER	DAY NUMBER	UNIVERSAL TIME	EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (DB RELATIVE TO 1A m ² /10)					
			1	2	3	4	5	MIN
1 330	-146.7	-146.5	-146.2	-146.8	-146.9	-146.9	-146.7	
2 330	-146.7	-146.3	-146.1	-144.9	-146.7			
3 330	-147.2	-146.9	-146.2	-144.8	-147.2			
4 330	-147.4	-147.6	-147.5	-146.6	-145.5	-147.6		
5 330	-147.7	-147.5	-147.1	-147.2	-146.1	-147.8		
6 330	-148.2	-148.3	-148.3	-147.7	-146.0	-148.3		
7 330	-148.2	-148.0	-147.2	-146.2	-146.0	-148.0		
8 330	-147.2	-147.2	-147.0	-146.2	-145.1	-147.2		
9 330	-147.1	-147.1	-146.3	-146.1	-145	-147.1		
10 330	-147.6	-147.2	-147.6	-146.6	-145.3	-147.7		
11 330	-147.7	-147.8	-147.7	-146.8	-145.5	-147.8		
12 330	-148.4	-148.3	-148.3	-147.3	-146.4	-148.4		
13 330	-148.2	-148.3	-148.3	-147.6	-146.6	-148.5		
14 330	-148.8	-148.3	-148.2	-147.3	-146.1	-148.8		
15 330	-149.2	-149.8	-149.3	-146.9	-146.9	-149.8		
16 330	-149.3	-149.7	-149.5	-146.9	-146.9	-149.7		
17 330	-149.9	-149.6	-149.6	-146.4	-147.7	-149.9		
18 330	-149.6	-149.5	-149.5	-146.5	-147.2	-149.6		
19 330	-150.1	-149.1	-149.1	-146.0	-147.0	-150.1		
20 330	-149.7	-150.2	-149.2	-147.6	-150.2			
21 331	-150.8	-151.1	-151.1	-150.2	-149.9	-151.1		
22 331	-151.1	-151.5	-151.6	-150.2	-149.8	-151.6		
23 331	-151.7	-152.5	-152.5	-150.9	-149.1	-152.5		
24 331	-151.1	-151.9	-152.0	-150.6	-149.3	-152.0		
25 331	-152.3	-152.5	-152.5	-150.7	-149.2	-152.5		
26 331	-151.4	-152.0	-152.0	-150.1	-149.1	-152.0		
27 331	-150.9	-151.6	-151.6	-150.1	-149.3	-151.6		
28 331	-151.6	-151.7	-151.2	-150.6	-149.4	-151.9		
29 331	-151.2	-151.3	-151.3	-150.3	-149.7	-151.3		
30 331	-151.7	-152.1	-152.5	-150.9	-149.6	-152.6		
31 331	-152.1	-153.1	-153.2	-151.9	-150.5	-153.3		
32 331	-152.3	-153.2	-153.3	-152.5	-151.2	-153.9		
33 331	-152.5	-153.2	-153.2	-152.2	-151.0	-153.9		
34 331	-152.4	-153.1	-153.1	-151.7	-150.6	-153.4		
35 331	-152.1	-152.5	-152.5	-151.6	-150.4	-152.4		
36 331	-152.2	-152.2	-152.2	-151.5	-150.2	-152.5		
37 331	-152.6	-153.2	-153.5	-151.7	-150.6	-152.5		
38 331	-153.0	-153.7	-154.1	-152.6	-151.5	-153.4		
39 331	-153.2	-153.2	-153.2	-151.9	-150.1	-153.4		
40 331	-152.6	-153.2	-153.2	-152.5	-150.6	-153.4		
41 331	-153.0	-153.6	-152.6	-151.1	-150.6	-153.6		
42 331	-152.5	-153.1	-153.1	-151.3	-149.7	-153.1		
43 331	-151.7	-153.7	-154.1	-153.1	-153.1			
44 331	-152.6	-155.5	-155.5	-154.1	-152.7	-155.4		
45 331	-155.5	-155.9	-155.9	-154.1	-152.7	-155.4		
46 331	-155.5	-156.0	-156.0	-154.1	-155.5	-156.0		
47 331	-155.7	-155.9	-155.9	-154.1	-155.5	-155.8		
48 331	-155.3	-155.6	-155.6	-154.1	-155.3	-155.8		
49 331	-155.2	-155.6	-155.6	-154.6	-155.2	-155.8		
50 331	-155.4	-155.5	-155.5	-154.4	-155.2	-155.8		
51 331	-155.3	-155.6	-155.6	-154.3	-155.1	-155.8		
52 331	-154.1	-154.7	-154.7	-153.0	-151.7	-154.7		
53 331	-154.1	-154.9	-154.7	-152.8	-151.6	-154.1		
54 331	-154.9	-155.3	-155.5	-154.9	-153.4	-154.5		
55 331	-154.2	-154.7	-154.7	-153.7	-151.1	-154.1		
56 331	-154.2	-154.7	-154.7	-153.1	-151.1	-154.3		
57 331	-154.2	-155.1	-155.1	-153.7	-152.9	-155.3		
58 331	-154.2	-155.2	-155.2	-153.6	-152.1	-155.6		
59 331	-154.2	-155.4	-155.7	-153.7	-152.3	-155.6		
60 331	-154.1	-155.6	-155.6	-153.6	-152.4	-155.6		
61 331	-154.1	-155.8	-155.8	-153.7	-152.6	-155.6		
62 331	-154.4	-155.7	-155.7	-153.8	-153.5	-155.5		
63 331	-154.9	-155.1	-155.1	-153.9	-152.2	-155.1		
64 331	-154.4	-154.6	-154.6	-152.9	-151.7	-154.6		
65 331	-154.0	-154.7	-154.7	-152.9	-151.6	-154.1		
66 331	-154.0	-155.7	-155.1	-152.9	-151.6	-154.1		
67 331	-154.7	-155.3	-155.3	-152.1	-150.9	-153.7		
68 331	-152.1	-152.5	-152.5	-151.1	-150.5	-153.0		
69 331	-152.1	-152.5	-152.5	-151.1	-150.5	-153.0		
70 331	-151.1	-151.6	-151.6	-150.9	-150.7	-151.7		
71 331	-151.0	-151.0	-151.0	-150.9	-150.0	-151.0		
72 331	-151.0	-151.0	-151.0	-150.9	-150.0	-151.0		

NRL REPORT 8039

Table 21 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days
330 and 331, 1975

DAILY MEAN	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
	152.0	152.1	152.2	150.4	119.6	152.3
STANDARD DEV	2.1	2.1	2.9	2.5	2.5	2.8

PROBABILITY DENSITY									
12.0	0.00	0.00	1.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.14	0.00	0.00
12.5	1.14	10.00	12.4	14.2	0.00	0.00	14.2	19.4	0.00
13.0	15.00	20.0	9.25	10.25	3.12	0.00	0.00	10.25	13.9
13.5	9.25	12.5	15.0	20.8	11.5	11.5	19.4	2.8	31.1
14.0	15.0	20.8	8.11	7.97	12.8	18.1	11.1	19.4	9.97
14.5	8.11	11.1	9.12	12.5	8.11	11.1	11.1	19.4	9.12
15.0	1.14	4.2	5.0	7.2	1.14	1.14	1.14	10.25	1.14
15.5	2.1	4.2	5.0	6.9	5.0	3.12	3.12	16.7	5.0
16.0	1.14	5.6	5.0	6.4	1.14	1.14	1.14	12.5	5.6
16.5	5.0	11.1	6.3	6.3	5.0	2.8	2.8	4.2	5.0
17.0	2.1	2.8	3.0	1.2	1.14	1.14	1.14	0.00	2.8
17.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION									
12.0	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.14	0.00	0.00	1.14	0.00	0.00
12.5	1.14	10.00	12.4	15.0	20.8	0.00	0.00	15.0	20.7
13.0	15.00	22.2	19.25	26.1	31.12	3.12	0.00	25.0	34.7
13.5	9.25	21.7	18	17.2	16	30.0	15	23.6	30.0
14.0	10	32.4	12	28.3	13	34.7	30	31.7	32.3
14.5	5	36.7	51	30.4	32	22.2	30	32.8	32.2
15.0	51	70.4	51	73.6	53	21.6	50	69.1	37
15.5	25	39.2	1	30.6	58	40.6	53	73.6	51.1
16.0	42	5.1	41	87.5	62	91.1	57	29.2	52.2
16.5	50	41.2	42	95.7	64	91.1	61	88.9	55.1
17.0	72	100.0	72	100.0	72	100.0	72	100.0	72
17.5	72	100.0	72	100.0	72	100.0	72	100.0	72
18.0	72	100.0	72	100.0	72	100.0	72	100.0	72

- Under relatively noisy conditions, there is no regular diurnal variation of best clipping channel, but performance differences among channels separated by 6-18 dB in clipping level are negligible.
- Nonlinear noise processing provides at least 10 dB of improvement over no-prefiltering processing under virtually all noise conditions. An earlier, tentative conclusion by Meyers and Davis (1976) that the improvement may be greater under low-noise conditions than under high-noise conditions is in error.
- Under conditions of vigorously disturbed propagation due to ionospheric instability, clipper performance maintains its improvement in effective noise level. The behavior of the nonlinear noise processor with a disturbed propagation environment is similar to its behavior with a stable propagation environment for low-noise, and high-noise conditions, respectively. This statement should not be construed to indicate, however, that received S/N will be unaffected by propagation disturbance. Considerable evidence indicates that disturbance effects on point-to-point signal propagation and on noise propagation are dissimilar and, perhaps, substantially independent. Examples exist in which signal levels decreased and noise levels increased during ionospheric disturbance, as well as the converse.

DAVIS AND MEYERS

Table 22 — Individual 13-Minute Noise Samples for Five Clipper Settings and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days 318 and 319, 1975 (Noisy Day)

SAMPLE NUMBER	DAY NUMBER	UNIVERSAL TIME	EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (DB RELATIVE TO 1A, m, RG)					
			1	2	3	4	5	MIN
			MAX	MAX	MAX	MAX	MAX	MAX
1	318	1405	1403	1404	1402	1401	1404	1404
2	318	1406	1403	1402	1407	1403	1406	1407
3	318	1407	1405	1403	1403	1406	1406	1407
4	318	1408	1407	1403	1403	1406	1407	1407
5	318	1409	1402	1403	1403	1407	1406	1407
6	318	1410	1403	1403	1406	1407	1406	1407
7	318	1411	1402	1403	1403	1406	1406	1407
8	318	1412	1402	1403	1403	1406	1406	1407
9	318	1413	1407	1406	1405	1409	1409	1409
10	318	1414	1409	1403	1403	1409	1409	1409
11	318	1415	1407	1406	1406	1405	1405	1407
12	318	1416	1401	1402	1401	1407	1407	1407
13	318	1417	1402	1403	1403	1405	1405	1407
14	318	1418	1405	1403	1402	1407	1405	1407
15	318	1419	1407	1403	1402	1407	1407	1407
16	318	1420	1409	1403	1402	1405	1407	1407
17	318	1421	1409	1403	1401	1407	1407	1407
18	318	1422	1407	1404	1404	1406	1406	1407
19	318	1423	1405	1404	1402	1405	1405	1407
20	318	1424	1402	1402	1405	1405	1406	1407
21	318	1425	1407	1406	1403	1405	1405	1407
22	318	1426	1409	1405	1403	1405	1405	1407
23	318	1427	1409	1407	1403	1402	1407	1407
24	319	1428	1407	1401	1401	1407	1405	1407
25	319	1429	1405	1402	1402	1407	1405	1405
26	319	1430	1407	1402	1402	1407	1405	1405
27	319	1431	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
28	319	1432	1409	1402	1402	1407	1406	1407
29	319	1433	1407	1402	1402	1407	1406	1407
30	319	1434	1406	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
31	319	1435	1407	1402	1401	1405	1405	1407
32	319	1436	1407	1402	1402	1405	1405	1407
33	319	1437	1408	1402	1402	1405	1405	1407
34	319	1438	1405	1402	1402	1405	1405	1407
35	319	1439	1407	1402	1402	1405	1405	1407
36	319	1440	1407	1402	1402	1405	1405	1407
37	319	1441	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
38	319	1442	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
39	319	1443	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
40	319	1444	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
41	319	1445	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
42	319	1446	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
43	319	1447	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
44	319	1448	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
45	319	1449	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
46	319	1450	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
47	319	1451	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
48	319	1452	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
49	319	1453	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
50	319	1454	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
51	319	1455	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
52	319	1456	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
53	319	1457	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
54	319	1458	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
55	319	1459	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
56	319	1460	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
57	319	1461	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
58	319	1462	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
59	319	1463	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
60	319	1464	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
61	319	1465	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
62	319	1466	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
63	319	1467	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
64	319	1468	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
65	319	1469	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
66	319	1470	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
67	319	1471	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
68	319	1472	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
69	319	1473	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
70	319	1474	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407
71	319	1475	1408	1402	1402	1406	1406	1407

NRL REPORT 8089

Table 23 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, Julian Days
318 and 319, 1975

DAILY MEAN	1	2	3	4	5	MIN
	-146.8	-146.9	-146.9	-146.4	-146.3	-147.0
STANDARD DEV.	2.1	2.1	2.2	1.8	1.7	2.1

PROBABILITY DENSITY								
-160.0	1	1.4	0	0.0	1	1.4	0	0.0
-159.0	8	11.2	10	14.1	9	12.7	8	12.2
-148.0	18	25.4	18	25.4	16	23.6	9	12.7
-147.0	14	19.7	13	14.3	15	21.1	21	29.6
-146.0	8	11.2	8	11.2	8	11.2	16	21.1
-145.0	4	6.6	5	7.0	2	4.2	3	4.2
-144.0	5	7.0	5	7.0	7	9.9	8	11.2
-143.0	11	15.6	12	16.9	12	16.9	10	14.1
-142.0	2	2.8	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	2.8
-141.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	1	1.4

CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION								
-160.0	1	1.4	0	0.0	1	1.4	0	0.0
-159.0	9	12.7	10	14.1	10	14.1	8	12.2
-148.0	27	38.0	28	39.1	26	36.6	12	16.9
-147.0	31	57.7	31	57.7	31	57.7	32	65.5
-146.0	19	69.0	19	69.0	19	69.0	18	67.6
-145.0	52	74.6	51	74.1	52	72.2	51	71.8
-144.0	68	81.7	69	83.1	69	83.1	61	71.8
-143.0	69	87.2	71	100.0	71	100.0	69	97.2
-142.0	71	100.0	71	100.0	71	100.0	70	98.6
-141.0	71	100.0	71	100.0	71	100.0	71	100.0

Table 24 — Noise Statistics for Five Clipper Settings
and Minimum Effective Noise Level, October and
November 1975

	CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTION						MIN	
	1	2	3	4	5	6		
-157.0	1	0.07	1	0.07	0	0.0	0	0.0
-156.0	1	0.07	2	0.2	1	0.07	0	0.0
-154.0	7	0.5	16	1.2	17	1.2	0	0.2
-153.0	30	2.2	13	2.2	26	2.7	4	3.3
-152.0	69	5.1	100	7.1	76	5.6	21	1.6
-151.0	167	12.3	222	14.1	193	11.3	48	3.6
-150.0	318	24.6	369	27.2	418	25.6	119	8.8
-149.0	629	39.2	677	42.7	64	29.1	217	14.2
-148.0	803	50.3	836	51.9	77	36.7	121	23.1
-147.0	1024	76.2	1087	59.8	191	72.6	692	18.3
-146.0	1119	86.1	1160	85.9	1141	82.8	940	64.9
-145.0	1211	92.2	1218	92.1	1221	91.6	1127	41.8
-144.0	1294	97.6	1298	99.2	1286	99.2	1241	91.2
-143.0	1322	97.9	1349	99.5	1321	97.9	1200	96.3
-142.0	1316	99.8	1318	99.8	1317	99.8	1327	99.0
-141.0	1318	99.8	1350	100.0	1319	99.8	1317	99.8
-140.0	1319	99.9	1350	100.0	1319	99.9	1350	100.0
-139.0	1319	99.9	1350	100.0	1319	99.9	1350	100.0
-138.0	1350	100.0	1350	100.0	1350	100.0	1350	100.0

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MINIMUM EFFECTIVE NOISE LEVEL (RELATIVE TO 100.0 dB)

DAVIS AND MEYERS

- The data generally tends to confirm that both the diurnal variation and the seasonal dependence of mean effective noise levels, as well as the cumulative probability distribution of data averaged over several weeks, are predictable functions of the solar season.

Finally, it can be concluded that these findings suggest that good nonlinear noise processor performance, under the high-noise conditions that represent the system performance limit, can be provided by a manually adjusted, one- or two-channel signal processor whose clipping levels can be set according to seasonal mean noise level predictions.

In an operational environment, of course, frequency-domain excision may be necessary to deal with cultural noise sources, which are not addressed in this report. Such sources probably vary from receiving platform to receiving platform and, somewhat less probably, from operating theater to operating theater. Frequency-domain excision parameters would thus have to be tailored at least to each platform and would have to be adapted to expected changes in cultural emissions from that platform. Simple, manually operated devices might not suffice for this task. However, in dealing with impulse noise of atmospheric origin, the subject of this report, the data indicate strongly that simple measures can achieve near-optimum performance.

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